





# GOURMET FOOD SUPPLIER

BOOK 05

*Cat Who Can Cook*

EPUB CREATION BY LISA HAYES

**Gourmet Food Supplier**

(美食供应商)

by

**Cat Who Can Cook**

(会做饭的猫)

# Synopsis

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There exists a strange little stall in the far east that has repeatedly rejected the designation of 3 Michelin Stars.

The prices there are high with a bowl of Egg Fried Rice with soup costing 288RMB. Oh, I forget that it also comes with a plate of pickled cabbage, but even so, many people continue to queue up for it.

That place doesn't accept reservations, only people who line up on the spot are accepted, countless people hire others to queue up for them, and of course, parking isn't provided.

The place has terrible service, and actually asks their customers to bus their own tables, oh and also wipe the table. Oh god! The boss of this place is simply mad."

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# Chapter 401: A Treat Being Refused

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Business time at noon passed very soon.

"Hoo... Let me have a rest first, then read some books and practice sculpting." Yuan Zhou patted his sleeves.

"What a tasteful man! I am really a prince charming. Even my habits are like those of the prince charming." Yuan Zhou suddenly muttered to himself.

Yuan Zhou was quite satisfied with his own arrangement.

The system displayed, "Congratulations! Host, you have completed the mission."

[Main mission] Entertain at least 1000 foreign customers (completed)

(Mission tips: As a world-class tiny restaurant, how could you continue business without the support of foreign friends since you have an exotic dish now? Host, please work hard to increase your skills. I have confidence in you.) [Mission reward] A set of western-style dishes with a total of three servings and also one set of standard western food etiquette (available to be received).

(Reward tips: A handsome reward can be a solid foundation for the host to become the Master Chef and Prince Charming.) "It's finally completed. Can I level up after it's completed?" Yuan Zhou asked curiously.

To level up meant the increase of his profit sharing by ten percent. It was quite a lot."

The system displayed, "Not yet."

"Tsk-tsk. Then why did you mention the main mission?" Yuan Zhou ridiculed.

However, he was quite curious about what the thing in his hand was. It was provided by the system the reminder that Yuan Zhou

had completed the mission popped up.

"System, what's this?" Yuan Zhou picked it up and looked at carefully, but still couldn't recognize what it was.

The system displayed, "A CD that can be played on the computer."

"Of course it's a CD. I mean what are the contents." Yuan Zhou first became speechless and only asked after a little while.

The system displayed, "It is a set of the standard western food etiquette from the reward."

"Is the etiquette only a CD? I might have encountered a fake system." Yuan Zhou felt the reward was full of flaws and thus couldn't help complaining.

The system displayed, "Careful observational and learning from it can increase the charm of a prince charming."

"Ohh. Does it have any particular function?" Yuan Zhou looked at the three CD's of unknown origin in his hand curiously.

The system displayed, "If one is well-educated, he will scintillate with it."

"Stupid system, are you kidding me?" Yuan Zhou looked at the CD and then said affirmatively, "This is really are three CD's of unknown origin."

After that, the system vanished again and no longer answered Yuan Zhou's question.

"Let me check the reward first in order to comfort myself." Yuan Zhou flipped through the three side dishes rewarded and checked the introductions carefully.

"After I obtained the system, I always feel that the food I ate formerly was all fake." Yuan Zhou sighed.

In front of the system, Yuan Zhou was always like that. He was no longer the prince charming as shown during the working hours.

Instead, he was the genuine Yuan Zhou that bargained and tried to save money anytime anywhere.

"Hua La Hua La"

Having checked the reward contentedly, Yuan Zhou turned on the tap and began to wash the hands. Not long after, however, his phone suddenly rang.

"Ling Ling Ling"

"Zhou Shijie?" Yuan Zhou turned to look at the screen of his phone and then muttered to himself with puzzlement.

It was the chairman of the China Chef's Alliance that was calling. Yuan Zhou wasn't very close with him, therefore he felt it a little strange.

Having barely completed the mission, however, Yuan Zhou was in a good mood. He wiped his hands dry and then answered the phone.

This call of Zhou Shijie was actually made to Chu Xiao first.

"Ta Ta Ta", a seemingly pretty and cultured girl who was wearing an overskirt and a pair of rimless glasses came straight to Zhou Shijie while carrying the documents. She walked in a swift and imposing manner and gave the impression of an able woman.

"Chairman, who are you preparing to take with you to the exchange of pointers for new French dishes?" The woman handed the documents to him and asked with a slight nasal tone that sounded quite charming.

"Little Zhong, why haven't you gone for your meal?" Zhou Shijie raised his head and asked her mildly when he saw the woman.

"Grandpa Zhou, check this one first, please. It has been more than one month and it's the time for us to give them an answer now." There was some mischievousness of a daughter revealed in the voice of the woman instead of the expected swift and decisive



manner.

"Ok, ok." Zhou Shijie agreed smilingly. He received the documents and wrote a name that had been decided by him a while ago.

"Yuan Zhou?" The woman called Little Zhong asked curiously.

"This guy is a prodigy, a real prodigy." Thinking of the delicacies cooked by Yuan Zhou, Zhou Shijie couldn't help praising him.

"Ok, chairman. I will hand his information to them today." Little Zhong said earnestly.

"Ok. Go ahead." Zhou Shijie nodded his head.

Little Zhong first handed the documents to the assistant waiting at the door and then returned to the office again.

"What's the matter?" Zhou Shijie signaled her to sit down.

"Zhi", Little Zhong pulled out the chair and sat down before she spoke.

"Grandpa Zhou, are you not prepared to take Adan there?" Judging from her tone to her behavior, it was obviously a private conversation.

"No, I am not. He's not stable and will not make it." Zhou Shijie said cleanly.

"Do you know your disciples are all waiting for this opportunity impatiently?" Little Zhong said smilingly with a pettish manner while supporting her chin.

"Those guys don't have the talent. It's a waste to give this opportunity to them." Zhou Shijie reached out his hands and patted on Little Zhong's head.

"Well, ok. Shall we go to eat something together, Grandpa Zhou?" Seeing Zhou Shijia not intend to say more, Little Zhong changed a subject.

"Girl, go eat now. Let me make two phone calls." Zhou Shijie stroked his beard and waved his hand to Little Zhong.

"Ok. I'm leaving. Grandpa, remember to eat something." Little Zhong stood up, turned around and then left the office.

"What a cute and mischievous girl." Zhou Shijie shook his head to the back of Little Zhong and said that.

After Little Zhong walked out and shut the door of the office considerately, Zhou Shijie began to make phone calls.

"Du Du Du", the phone was answered after a little while.

"Chairman Zhou, what's the matter?" It was the flaunty and confident voice of Chu Xiao at the other end of the phone.

"This old man wouldn't call you for no reason." Zhou Shijie was quite clear that Chu Xiao was frank and straightforward. Thus, he continued saying that directly.

"This old man wants to treat you to dinner."

"To dinner?" Chu Xiao was a little puzzled.

"Yes. Let's go to Yuan Zhou's restaurant to eat." Zhou Shijie said affirmatively.

"Well... I don't think that is necessary. I have returned to France." Chu Xiao immediately reacted and refused directly.

"You left so quickly?" Zhou Shijie knitted his brows as it was out of his expectation.

"Yes. I went back already." Chu Xiao answered positively.

"Ok. Let's talk about it next time." Zhou Shijie could only give up.

After some small talk, Chu Xiao hung up the phone. He didn't put his phone down immediately, but made a call instead.

"Change the flight ticket to France to today." Once the phone was put through, Chu Xiao said directly.

"Ok, Mr. Chu. I will notify you the precise time later." There

passed a melodious male voice from the other end of the phone.

"Um." Chu Xiao answered, indicating that he got it.

"Interesting." Taking the phone, Chu Xiao smiled vaguely. Then he started to tidy things up and prepared to leave.

As for the matter that the original ticket was for two days later, only Chu Xiao and his assistant knew about it.

Since Zhou Shijie said he would make two phone calls, he indeed did so. The second one was made to Yuan Zhou...

# Chapter 402: The Pursuit of Perfection

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Yuan Zhou was still a little puzzled when he wiped his hands dry and took up the phone.

After a pause, Yuan Zhou said, "Hello, chairman."

It was only later when Yuan Zhou got some information about this Zhou Shijie. Other things aside, solely based on just one matter, Yuan Zhou admired him.

It was said that Zhou Shijie had once been within the top three of an international chef's league competition, the only Chinese that had achieved that accomplishment.

Of course, it was also the very first time that a Chinese entered the top three of this match. It wasn't exaggerated at all to say it became a legend.

Although the culinary skills of a Chinese chef need not be affirmed by foreigners, Zhou Shijie's craftsmanship had definitely reached the summit and could be said to be faultless, which brought such a score to him.

One should know that those judges weren't really objective nor impartial toward Chinese candidates.

"Is that Yuan Zhou? This is Zhou Shijie." Zhou Shijie said gently this time.

"Um. Hi." Yuan Zhou answered.

"I'm thinking of recommending you to attend the exchange of pointers concerning the new French dishes. What do you think of that?" Zhou Shijie said kindly.

"Thank you, chairman." Yuan Zhou raised his eyebrows in surprise.

"So you agreed, right?" Zhou Shijie said that more happily this time.

"Yes. Since it's your recommendation, I will for sure go there. Thank you." Of course, Yuan Zhou wouldn't refuse such a good opportunity.

"Haw-haw. No need to thank me. This is what your culinary skills brought you," Zhou Shijie said directly.

"Ok, I got it." Yuan Zhou was clear about that in his mind and also said approvingly.

"If so, go make some preparations. Let's go to the airport together several days later. We will need to stay for five days in France and it will take about one week for the whole journey." Zhou Shijie instructed Yuan Zhou carefully like an elder.

"Alright. Thank you, chairman." Yuan Zhou listened to him earnestly.

"Ok. Two days later, my assistant Zhong Lili will come to you. She will speak with you about this matter." Zhou Shijie was in a fairly good mood this time.

Zhou Shijie was in a good mood because he had already known from Lee Yanyi that Yuan Zhou's temper was even worse than his and furthermore, he didn't like going out.

For the time being, Yuan Zhou's character did not seem too bad.

"This young man is talented and also very sincere. Good, good." Zhou Shijie stroked his goatee smilingly and muttered to himself.

On the aspect of culinary skills, Zhou Shijie was more optimistic about Yuan Zhou, although he hadn't obtained any Michelin three-stars. Even now, he didn't know Yuan Zhou's full abilities.

However, that didn't really matter. This was because Yuan Zhou had no teacher and had only worked for two years in an ordinary hotel.

In his opinion, Yuan Zhou's awesome performance was just the manifestation of his infinite talent.

"Flight tickets are supposed to be included in the invitation. For the accommodation, it's also supposed to be included as it's more like a business trip. So that means I only need to go there and bring some money." After Yuan Zhou put down the phone, he started to think.

Then, he thought of his golden card.

"The Euro is used in France. So I'm going to bring ten thousand Euros and can swipe my card for anything else." Yuan Zhou said full of spirit.

"You can only bring a cash amount less than 5000 USD or its equivalent." Suddenly, there passed a male voice from outside the open door.

"Pardon?" As this voice appeared rather abrupt, Yuan Zhou didn't even react.

"Below 5000 USD. Otherwise you have to apply for the cash-carrying permit." It was Wu Hai that entered his restaurant.

"Ok. I got it." Yuan Zhou said calmly.

As for whether Yuan Zhou felt bad about his failure in posturing, it was unknown.

"Apart from that, you need to make an appointment to change the currency." Wu Hai stroked his small mustaches and reminded Yuan Zhou again.

"What are you here for? It's not business hours." Yuan Zhou changed the subject without turning a hair.

"Tsk. I am just passing by here." Wu Hai bullshitted without blinking.

"Um. Ok, you continue passing by. I'm going to sculpt now." With a nod, Yuan Zhou indicated that he got it and then drove Wu Hai away.

"Alright. See you in the evening." Wu Hai didn't say much, but

instead turned around and left directly.

"Don't think I don't know you specially come here to tease me with your prim manner." After Wu Hai left, Yuan Zhou ridiculed expressionlessly in the heart.

The reason why Yuan Zhou wanted to go abroad was quite simple. He originally had plans to go abroad.

It was essentially because of the reward provided by the system.

The system had rewarded him with all the etiquette standards of western style dishes and Yuan Zhou would also provide all the side dishes. Therefore, he naturally needed to understand those by himself.

Even though he didn't need to teach others, in his opinion, it was a must that he was proficient in that.

Going abroad was the best way to learn the etiquette of western style dishes, let alone that he was going to France.

"French dishes are also considered a world-class cuisine. There's also the Michelin Three-Star Restaurant. I can learn a lot of things." Yuan Zhou stroked the corner of his forehead and thought inwardly.

It was definitely not because of the free journey to France that made him decide to go to France suddenly. Absolutely not. He wasn't that kind of person.

One day soon passed. Before Yuan Zhou went to bed, he checked the local weather and precautions of France and then went to sleep.

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Early next morning, Yuan Zhou got up as usual to jog and exercise before he prepared the breakfast.

At the other end, Ling Hong also got up early and prepared to go out directly.

"Little Ling, why didn't you take the newspaper recently? Did you forget?" A woman dressed cleanly came out after Ling Hong.

"No, I am not. It's unnecessary to read the newspaper in future." After Ling Hong stopped, he thought for a while and then said.

"What happened? Isn't it your habit to read the newspaper? Why did you quit so abruptly?" The woman became more puzzled.

"I have got a more precise loudspeaker than the newspaper now." Ling Hong shrugged with an evil smile on his face.

"Are you sure?" The woman asked again for confirmation earnestly.

"Don't worry, Aunt Zhang. I have another one in my company." Ling Hong comforted her and then left immediately.

As for the loudspeaker mentioned by Ling Hong, it was naturally the customers in Yuan Zhou's restaurant.

These two customers came for breakfast in the morning everyday. Every time, they would talk about the latest news covering everything as if they had made plenty of preparations beforehand. Meanwhile, they even explained and ridiculed them.

Once Ling Hong arrived, he heard the latest news.

After Ling Hong, separated by the two men, there were another two men wearing business suits and ties.

The taller one was Liu Zhiming while the other short but handsome one was Pan Ning. They were right now chatting heatedly while others beside them were listening to them carefully.

"Did you read that news on Sohu today?" Liu Zhiming turned his head and started.

"Yes, I did. I feel that the man is definitely self-indulgent. Why did he go to the bar at midnight? No wonder he was assaulted sexually." Pan Ning ridiculed primly.



"Haw-haw-haw. Isn't your remark the first comment below the news?" Liu Zhiming burst into laughter suddenly.

"What a big surprise! A man went to the bar and was forced to drink until he became drunk. Afterwards, he was sexually assaulted by six women. Sigh. I also want such an opportunity, but just one woman is good for me." Pan Ning sighed and said.

"Come on. You are way too handsome, so best be careful. The prophecy might unfortunately come true." Liu Zhiming said earnestly.

"Yeah, I think so, too. But I feel the insulting event of tearing the names is even more unbelievable." Pan Ning suddenly said with a discontented tone.

"Indeed. They dared discriminate so openly and it even happened at Columbia University." Liu Zhiming also shook his head to show his disapproval.

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The two people were like the loudspeakers that narrated various news. They were simply the best human-shaped news broadcaster.

Therefore, Ling Hong naturally didn't need the newspaper anymore.

# Chapter 403: As You Please

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Accompanied by the two loudspeakers' news broadcasting, even the time taken waiting for the delicacies became shorter.

Of course, Yuan Zhou also liked the two people as they really knew a lot of things. Although they talked a lot, they knew not to bother others. They weren't hated but instead, liked by others.

They talked about the current news everyday with no repetitions, which was also a unique characteristic.

It was now 9:30 in the morning. Zhong Lili, namely Little Zhong, was walking along the street in front of Yuan Zhou's restaurant in her high-heel shoes.

The impact of the shoes against the ground emitted a sound of "Du Du Du", but didn't conceal Zhong Lili's grumbles.

"What an annoying old man Grandpa Zhou is! He surprisingly asked me to come exactly on time, not a single minute earlier or later. I don't understand why is Grandpa Zhou giving the opportunity to a person whose name is unknown to others?" The capable and experienced manner of hers previously seemed to have vanished, replaced by an impatient expression on her pretty face. She knitted her brows and muttered to herself.

"This restaurant really hides itself well." Zhong Lili looked at the surroundings around and frowned even deeper.

Not long after that, she counted the street number and saw Yuan Zhou who was sitting at the door.

"Hooo." Having breathed out, she resumed her normally capable and experienced expression and then walked to Yuan Zhou quickly.

With a professional smile, Zhong Lili straightforwardly asked, "Hi, Sir. Are you Yuan Zhou?"

Of course, she had already seen Yuan Zhou's photos and hence knew him well. But it might be politer to ask that way.

However, Yuan Zhou was sculpting his work very carefully and attentively.

Under such circumstances, even if it was Man Man approaching him, Yuan Zhou would first finish his work and then talk about something else, let alone it was a woman unknown to him this time.

Therefore, Yuan Zhou didn't even raise his head, nor did he answer her. He just quickened the actions of his hands.

Seeing Yuan Zhou giving no reaction after a while, Zhong Lili knitted her brows quickly and asked again.

This time, her voice became much louder. Five minutes later, however, Yuan Zhou still had no reaction.

Zhong Lili had fairly good patience, even if she knitted her brows hard this time and her tone wasn't that gentle anymore. "You are Yuan Zhou, aren't you? I'm the assistant of Chairman Zhou, Zhong Lili."

Speaking of Chairman Zhou, she even stressed on those two words.

Total silence.

"Ho Ho. Interesting." Zhong Lili thought inwardly with irony.

Of course, she saw Yuan Zhou sculpting at the first moment she arrived. But in her opinion, it was no more than a radish sculpture. How could it be more important than her work? Therefore, she went up bluntly and said to him.

"Sir, please stop your sculpture temporarily and continue later. We need to discuss the matter of going to France." Zhong Lili took a deep breath and said stiffly.

Zhong Lili stared at Yuan Zhou carefully this time, but Yuan

Zhou still lowered his head as if the radish in his hand had a significant attraction to him.

"Girl, little girl." Just when Zhong Lili couldn't control herself and was about to lose temper, she heard someone calling her.

Then, she tilted her head subconsciously and saw Boss Tong in the dry cleaning shop.

"Are you calling me?" Zhong Lili asked with puzzlement.

"Yes. Once Boss Yuan starts to sculpt, he will never talk with anybody until he finishes." Boss Tong explained. There appeared a mild smile on her skinny face.

"But I have something very important to tell him." Zhong Lili knitted her brows and still insisted.

"But this little Boss Yuan can't hear you now. If you are tired, come here and take a seat.

"No need. Thank you." Zhong Lili shook her head and refused.

"You are welcome. So you can just wait for a little while. He isn't listening to anybody right now." Boss Tong said again.

"Alright, I got it." Zhong Lili took a look at Yuan Zhou and said that helplessly.

Of course, the discontent in her heart reached the apex.

As for Yuan Zhou, he was naturally sculpting carefully. This time, he was trying to sculpt Immortal Zhang Guo Lau of the TV series of Eight Immortals Crossing the Sea, who was riding a donkey backwards.

In the end, even the furs of the donkey were clearly seen. So was the wild and intractable expression on the donkey's long face.

Not to mention the clothes of Immortal Zhang Guo Lau. It was naturally also incomparably clear.

In the meantime, Zhong Lili just stood at the door of Yuan Zhou's

restaurant and waited for half an hour.

During the short period, she also tried again to call Yuan Zhou, but all ended in failure. If not for Zhou Shijie, she would have already taken the radish away.

As the assistant of the chairman of China Chef's Alliance, Zhong Lili and her family had a good personal friendship with Zhou Shijie. There, even those famous chefs didn't dare to ignore her like that.

Let alone this was just a Yuan Zhou. Thus, she was extremely angry.

Once Yuan Zhou finished his work, Zhong Lili immediately went up and said, "Respected Mr. Yuan, please show me your ID, 2-inch color photos and household register. I will apply for the visa for you with them."

"Of course, if you don't have it now, please go to take a photo first. You wouldn't know the procedures for the visa application and you need not know them. I will get everything done for you." Although she used the words like "respected" and "please", there was not an ounce of respect towards him.

However, Yuan Zhou didn't seem to hear that. He just put a sculpture of Immortal Zhang Guo Lau on the shelf beside him carefully.

Then, he straightened himself up and asked Zhong Lili while looking at her, "I'm sorry. I didn't hear you. Could you please repeat that?"

Yuan Zhou said that with a tepid tone, which let Zhong Lili sensitively realize something went wrong.

She shut her mouth, saying nothing, and chose to keep silent for a moment.

At that moment, Zhong Lili caught sight of the radish sculpture that Yuan Zhou had put on the shelf beside her.

She wasn't good at cooking or sculpting, but knew about such things. For such a sculpture, even the best disciple of Zhou Shijie couldn't do that.

They just couldn't reach the integration of the form and the spirit like that. It was like a miniature figurine of the genuine immortal person.

"Your sculpting skills are truly awesome." Zhong Lili swallowed her indignation just now. She realized she didn't actually wait in vain after she saw his perfect craftsmanship. Therefore, she said more mildly.

"Um." Yuan Zhou answered vaguely. Then he sat down and prepared to sculpt the radish again.

That really scared Zhong Lili. She knew Yuan Zhou was doing the latter part of the sculpture when she came here. Even so, she had waited there for almost 40 minutes.

If he continued to sculpt, she surely couldn't finish the work today and wouldn't know how to answer to Chairman Zhou.

"I'm sorry, Mr. Yuan. A passport is needed for going abroad, but it will take three months to get it if you apply for that by yourself. Chairman Zhou has instructed that you are going on a business trip and thus you can get it very quickly." Zhong Lili let go of her mood and prepared to do the work first.

"How long will it take if you do it?" Yuan Zhou asked lightly.

"One day." Zhong Lili said concisely without any more words.

"Um, but I have no photo today. You can come to collect it tomorrow. Since that is clear now, you can leave as you please." Yuan Zhou nodded his head, indicating he had known that, and then said quite indifferently.

"Ok. I won't bother you anymore." Zhong Lili managed to control her hot temper and repeated inwardly that work mattered more. Only by that could she answer so calmly.

Then, Yuan Zhou no longer spoke to her, but took the radish again and started to sculpt.

He was sculpting Immortal Han Hsiang-Tzu this time. The green part at the top of the radish was used to sculpt the bamboo flute of Han Hsiang-Tzu.

"Damn it!!!" After walking out of the side street, Zhong Lili couldn't help stamping her foot heavily and gnashing her teeth in anger.

However, Yuan Zhou didn't really care about all that. In his opinion, the opportunity for exchanging pointers was rare, but it also wasn't a bad idea for him to go alone.

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# Chapter 404: I Don't Know If My French Is Good

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Early next morning, Zhong Lili went to the company directly. Once she put her handbag down, she started to process the documents on the table.

Having arrived a little later, her assistant Chengzi also placed the breakfast in his hands down hurriedly and started to sort the schedules out earnestly.

However, she knitted her brows upon seeing the schedule for visiting Yuan Zhou's restaurant again.

"The boss was in a bad mood when she came back yesterday and furthermore, she didn't get the work done. It was definitely that chef who caused trouble." Chengdi murmured with a low voice. Having thought for quite a while, she took the schedule paper and entered the office.

"Dong Dong". Chengzi knocked on the door lightly.

"Come in." Zhong Lili gave the impression of a strong and capable woman when she was in the office.

Therefore, she spoke clearly and concisely.

"This is the schedule for today. I have completed it. Please check if there are any problems." Chengzi put the document in his hand on the imperial red solid-wood office table.

"Um, no problem." Zhong Lili glanced at the schedule very quickly. When she saw the schedule of going to Yuan Zhou's restaurant, she frowned unconsciously yet did not say anything.

"I can also manage the matter of collecting information and applying for the passport. How about you go attend the meeting of the China Chef's Alliance with the chairman?" Chengzi proposed considerately.



"No need. I will go alone." Zhong Lili considered for a second and denied the proposal.

Even though she didn't want to see Yuan Zhou, she would never give up since it was arranged by Zhou Shijie.

Judging from his sculpting skills, however, Yuan Zhou had enough reason to be that prideful.

"Alright. I'm going out now." Without saying anything else, Chengzi went out obediently.

"What a bother!" Zhong Lili pinched her forehead. After she checked the time, she took her coat and set out immediately.

She had originally thought a lot of time would be required this round, and therefore prepared to wait there.

And she specifically wore flat shoes. Despite that, Yuan Zhou gave her a surprise again.

"All the necessary information is over there. After everything is done, please return them back to me. Thank you." Yuan Zhou didn't sculpt today. Instead, he was sharpening a knife, a common iron knife.

Seeing Zhong Lili come to him, he directly pointed at the long curved table and said.

"Ok. Thanks, Mr. Yuan." Zhong Lili was stunned for a while and then replied.

After a nod, Yuan Zhou no longer said anything. Having gotten all the information, Zhong Lili became relieved.

"Hooo... Fortunately, I don't need to come again." Zhong Lili felt very lucky while she said that.

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The trip to France came very soon. Yuan Zhou was still a little muddled even while sitting on the plane.

"Tsk. Evil capitalism!" Looking at the spacious plane, Yuan Zhou ridiculed expressionlessly.

That's right. Yuan Zhou was sitting in the first-class cabin. The professional aircrews were beautiful and polite and their voices were light and gentle.

"Mr. Yuan, here is your seat." An air stewardess showed Yuan Zhou his seat politely.

"Ok. Thank you." Yuan Zhou followed her instructions and sat down.

"What would you like to drink?" The beautiful air stewardess bowed and inquired courteously.

"A cup of plain boiled water." Yuan Zhou answered calmly. No one really realized it was Yuan Zhou's first time sitting in the first-class cabin of a plane.

Even Zhou Shijie, who was sitting beside him, didn't realize that.

However, Yuan Zhou was ridiculing inwardly, "It's truly a capitalist society. Fortunately, I won't be affected."

The service of the air stewardess was indeed much better than that of the economy class cabin. So were the drinks and the dishes.

"We'll go to Beijing for a flight transfer. That way, we can arrive early." Zhou Shijie turned his head and said to Yuan Zhou.

"Ok. Good." Yuan Zhou straightened himself up and appeared quite earnest.

"Take it easy. We are just going there to watch those chefs' culinary skills. You just watch them carefully and take it as a fun time." Zhou Shijie stroked his beard and said with ease.

"Ok, I will." Yuan Zhou nodded his head.

"Trust me. Those French girls are way too warm. An iceberg like you will probably be melted by their enthusiasm." Zhou Shijie winked at Yuan Zhou saying a teasing tone.

He looked like to be comforting Yuan Zhou.

"Um. I want to have a look at their etiquette." Yuan Zhou thought of the etiquette that he had been learning these few days and said earnestly.

In the past few days, Yuan Zhou had watched the CD provided by the system every night to study. Of course, the books weren't abandoned, either. He specifically brought three books with him to read this time.

"Alright. Let's have a rest. After this flight, we will have another long flight." Zhou Shijie signaled Yuan Zhou to take a rest and then he closed his eyes for a nap.

The flight speed greatly narrowed the distance between different countries worldwide. Yuan Zhou and Zhou Shijie set out from Chengdu, and along with the ten hours of waiting for flight transfer, they spent 25 hours in all to arrive in Paris, France.

It was just 2:30 p.m. and the weather was nice. Although it was a little cold, the sun was shining.

"Huh, it's also a little cold here." Zhou Shijie took out the coat and put it on while speaking of that.

"I have new thermal underwear." Yuan Zhou said naturally at the side.

"Haw-haw. Never mind. I also have one in my suitcase. It's not cold anymore since I put on the coat." Although he had aged, Zhou Shijie patted his chest to show that he was very strong.

"The highest temperature in Paris is 10 degrees right now while the lowest is 5 degrees." Yuan Zhou checked the weather report and said earnestly.

"Alright. I will put on another one later." Zhou Shijie nodded his head obediently.

Only then did Yuan Zhou button his windbreaker and walk away

with his two luggage bags.

Although they were invited to have an exchange of pointers, the one that came to pick them up was nevertheless the French disciple of Zhou Shijie.

The Mandarin spoken by the disciple wasn't so good. Yuan Zhou always felt uncomfortable when he heard it. But anyhow, they managed to get to the hotel smoothly. Of course, the hotel was a five-star hotel.

"It's so good to live in tall buildings. The scenery is wonderful. It seems that foreign countries are really not bad." Yuan Zhou didn't encounter anything special the while way, thus he stood at the window and sighed with emotion.

"Ding Dong." The doorbell rang. Then, Yuan Zhou stood up and opened the door.

"Hello, Mr. Yuan. This is the schedule for the exchange of pointers tomorrow." A big-eyed pretty girl handed him a slip at the door.

"Ok. Thank you." Yuan Zhou received it courteously.

"You are welcome. Bye, Mr. Yuan." The big-eyed pretty girl left after she said that.

...

On the following day,

"Don't be nervous even if you are attending it for the first time. You are only responsible for eating and then think about the taste." While Zhou Shijie shuttling Yuan Zhou back and forth in the conference, he said to Yuan Zhou, who appeared quite solemn, with a comforting tone.

The conference place was dominated by the color white. In the central part was a long table where the dishes were displayed. The names of the dishes were written in front of them in French.

The entire conference looked quite clean and neat. The flowers interspersed here and there gave an atmosphere of vitality, which was pleasing to eyes.

"Cinnamon and Red Wine Boiled Apple?" Looking at the dish in his sight, he said in a simple and straightforward way. In his heart, however, he felt quite puzzled.

"It's named really straightforwardly." He continued to say indifferently.

"Yes, it is. People can easily recognize the main ingredients used in the dish from the names given by those foreigners." Zhou Shijie explained and answered Yuan Zhou earnestly like an elder.

Yuan Zhou nodded his head approvingly. However, what Zhou Shijie said right after that made Yuan Zhou a little puzzled. He became stupefied immediately.

Zhou Shijie, "Little Yuan, your French is pretty good."

French? What? What's that?

# Chapter 405: Chu Xiao's Pride

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Zhou Shijie looked at Yuan Zhou with a smile and said, "Little Yuan, your French is good. I wanted to ask you about that yesterday."

Zhou Shijie was speaking French impressively this time, which made Yuan Zhou slightly perturbed.

"What the hell is 'Your French is good'? I don't even speak English. For foreign languages, I speak either Mandarin or the regional dialect." Yuan Zhou maintained his composure on the face, but couldn't help ridiculing inwardly.

However, he started to observe the surroundings around earnestly without a trace.

"What the f\*ck! They seem to be talking in French. Wait, the names of dishes are also in French. Why can I understand that?" Yuan Zhou revealed a suspicious look.

"Am I a born genius of French and understood this language ever since I was born?" Yuan Zhou couldn't help guessing.

Yuan Zhou prepared to answer Zhou Shijie's question in French confidently.

"A little. Not too much." When Yuan Zhou uttered the first word, he found that he couldn't speak French at all.

Then, he fell silent and directly summoned the system.

"System, were you the one that helped me with that?" Yuan Zhou's tone was quite serious.

The system displayed, "The CD for you to learn the etiquette of western-style dishes was in French."

So the CD that Yuan Zhou had been watching in the past few days was all played in French. As it could be read and understood naturally by Yuan Zhou with no big differences, Yuan Zhou didn't

even notice this matter.

Yuan Zhou didn't remember that until he was reminded by the system.

"Then how can I understand French?" Yuan Zhou asked curiously.

The system displayed, "In order for you to learn the skills better."

"You really did a good job. So you just forgot to pass on the speaking ability to me?" Yuan Zhou said very sincerely for the first half sentence, and the latter half was spoken quite considerately.

The system displayed, "The learning of etiquette doesn't require the speaking ability."

The words were so conspicuous in Yuan Zhou's mind that he was immediately stupefied.

After quite a while, he said, "System, that really makes a lot of sense. I don't even know what to say."

Then, the system that made sense vanished again unsurprisingly, just like what it did every time it cheated Yuan Zhou.

Back to reality, Yuan Zhou still gave an explanation to Zhou Shijie.

"I don't speak French. I can only listen and read it." Yuan Zhou said with an extraordinarily natural tone.

"Really? Can you listen and understand this? Arroseeurarrosee." Zhou Shijie asked with interest.

"Do you want to know the meaning?" Yuan Zhou asked with puzzlement.

"Of course. I just feel this word is very difficult to be translated literally. Last time, this old man almost couldn't understand it." Zhou Shijie said while stroking his very neat beard.

"It presumably means that 'he who is unjust is doomed to

destruction' or 'deal with a man as he deals with you'." Yuan Zhou said affirmatively.

"Right on. Little Yuan, your French is indeed very good. But you really don't speak it?" Zhou Shijie asked with puzzlement.

In his opinion, if one could read and listen, how could one not speak it?

However, the fact was that Yuan Zhou really didn't speak French at all.

"No, I can't." Yuan Zhou affirmed that with a nod.

"Haw-haw. If you don't speak, then how did you manage to learn French?" While taking Yuan Zhou to savor the dishes, Zhou Shijie asked with interest.

"By watching." Yuan Zhou thought for a while and said earnestly.

"An interesting young man. Come and taste this one." Zhou Shijie pointed at the dishes in front of him and said.

"Um." Yuan Zhou nodded his head and then began to taste it.

The two people, old and young, basically walked around and tasted dishes in the conference place. Occasionally, Zhou Shijie introduced some chefs to Yuan Zhou.

Yet, it was more of tasting.

This was exactly the purpose of Zhou Shijie bringing Yuan Zhou here. Only in the most authentic place could he witness the most authentic French dishes.

Of course, visiting his peers in the same industry was also one of the purposes.

The whole day passed very soon.

"We are leaving. Let's go to the hotel." Zhou Shijie parted with others and then said to Yuan Zhou.

"Um. I'm very full today." Yuan Zhou said subconsciously.



"That's good. Then we don't need to eat dinner and I can save some money." Zhou Shijie said smilingly.

"Indeed. I'm going out to wander around." When Yuan Zhou walked to the entrance of the hotel, he suddenly said that.

"Ok. I will stay out of that in case you have a nice affair." With a temperament of a kid, Zhou Shijie teased him right away.

"No, there won't be. I will just wander around the entrance." Yuan Zhou shook his head.

"There might be. Remember you are in France now, young man." Zhou Shijie burst into laughter and directly went upstairs.

Nevertheless, Yuan Zhou really stayed at the entrance and thought quietly where he should go.

After about one minute or so, the doorman at the side came over to him.

"Sir, what can I do for you?" The doorman was a tall and blond handsome man.

Yuan Zhou could understand him. He turned his head and looked at the doorman silently. Meanwhile, he was struggling in his heart about how to answer it.

"Occasionally, it isn't good to understand French. How shall I answer him now?" Yuan Zhou grumbled quite speechlessly.

After all, he could only listen, but couldn't speak.

While Yuan Zhou was in an embarrassing situation outside, Zhou Shijie received a phone call after he went back to his room.

"Why do you have time to call me?" Looking at the two characters Chu Xiao on the screen, Zhou Shijie answered the phone decisively and teased him.

"I know you are in France now. Are you used to the surroundings here?" Chu Xiao revealed a natural tone as if he had called to make small talk.

"This old man merely came here for a visit. I didn't see you today." Zhou Shijie asked conveniently.

"Yes. Presumably we didn't meet." Chu Xiao said calmly.

"So tell me. What's the matter?" Zhou Shijie came to the point.

"How many of you are there?" Chu Xiao suddenly asked that.

"Two." Zhou Shijie knitted his brows and said frankly.

He didn't forget that Yuan Zhou was also here.

"Please don't feel surprised if I want to treat you guys to dinner." Even when Chu Xiao was talking, his polite remarks couldn't conceal his pride.

"You are going to cook?" Zhou Shijie immediately understood what Chu Xiao meant.

"Of course. I will serve my signature dish then." Chu Xiao said affirmatively.

"Ok. No problem." Zhou Shijie accepted this invitation directly. He didn't ask Yuan Zhou for his opinion before deciding to take him there together.

"Then let's meet in my restaurant at noon three days later." Chu Xiao reported his address.

"Wait." Just before Chu Xiao hung off the phone, Zhou Shijie stopped him.

"What's the matter?" It was Chu Xiao's turn to ask that this time.

"Since you're going to treat me to dinner, I want to treat you when you go back home, too. How do you like that proposal?" Zhou Shijie was quite confident of this invitation.

"All right." Chu Xiao agreed clearly at the other end of the phone.

"Then, everything is fine." Zhou Shijie smiled contentedly and then hung off the phone.

"He's a capable man." Chu Xiao recalled that Yuan Zhou could

always tell the merits and demerits of the dishes when he tasted them.

Even if he ate them for the very first time.

That's right. Chu Xiao had also been to the exchange of pointers that day and he had even seen Yuan Zhou and the chairman Zhou Shijie. However, he didn't go to greet them, but just looked at them quietly.

Nevertheless, that also provided Chu Xiao with a reason to treat them to dinner.

## Chapter 406: Chu Xiao's Signature Dish

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As Zhou Shijie hung up the phone, Yuan Zhou had also figured out a solution at his end.

Yuan Zhou smiled at the tall and handsome blond doorman politely and then shook his head before he turned around and went back to the hotel.

"Ok. Have a nice trip." The doorman said enthusiastically, revealing his white teeth.

Yuan Zhou continued nodding his head and then walked into the hotel courteously.

"Ding", the elevator arrived and afterwards, Yuan Zhou entered it.

Only after the elevator went up for several floors did Yuan Zhou react.

"Wait. Why did I come back? I can go out freely after I refused the doorman." Yuan Zhou stroked his forehead with one hand and revealed a puzzled expression.

"It seems that I was out of my mind just now." Yuan Zhou couldn't help patting on his own forehead and muttered to himself.

As soon as he patted on his own forehead, Yuan Zhou naturally raised his head and saw the monitor camera. Instantly, Yuan Zhou became solemn.

"Damn it. There's surprisingly a monitor camera here. Nobody is supposed to see me. Anyway, no one knows what I'm saying." Yuan Zhou thought inwardly.

For the remaining time in the elevator, Yuan Zhou remained solemn all along until he came out.

"Huh? You come back so quickly? Then come to my room." Once Yuan Zhou went out of the elevator, he was seen by Zhou Shijie.

"Um. I wandered around and came back immediately." Yuan Zhou nodded his head.

"It's good to come back early. Have a good rest today and I will take you to eat something delicious tomorrow." Upon entering the room, Zhou Shijie said smilingly right away.

"Things judged by you as delicacy are definitely good." Yuan Zhou said with a quite serious look.

"Haw-haw, of course. That place is an old Michelin Three Star Restaurant and the chef is also a three-star." Zhou Shijie didn't tell him directly that it was Chu Xiao.

"If so, it well deserves a taste. Thanks, chairman." Yuan Zhou immediately thanked him.

"You brat. Thanking me so quickly. It seems that you want me to treat you, don't you?" Zhou Shijie reacted at once and said with a seemingly angry tone.

"Now that you have said that, as a younger man, it isn't good for me to compete against you on that. So, thank you." Yuan Zhou didn't fear that Zhou Shijie would get angry, thus he continued saying seriously.

"Young men nowadays are all slippery. Fortunately, this old man has already prepared to treat." Zhou Shijie glared at Yuan Zhou and then said that.

"Thank you." Yuan Zhou said extraordinarily sincerely.

"That's fine. Just stop saying that." Having paused a little while, Zhou Shijie continued saying, "Little Yuan, I remember that you are not a picky eater and don't have any dietetic restraint, right?"

"Yes. I can taste anything." Yuan Zhou nodded his head.

"Ok. There are no more problems then. They have prepared 13 dishes." Zhou Shijie said.

"Are we going there in the evening tomorrow?" Yuan Zhou

suddenly asked.

"No. At noon." Zhou Shijie reminded.

"Ok. Don't wait for me to eat breakfast tomorrow." After a nod, Yuan Zhou said earnestly.

"What? Are you still overcoming jet lag?" Zhou Shijie asked with a caring tone while looking at him.

"No. That way, I can eat more at noon." When Yuan Zhou said that as if it was obvious.

"..." Zhou Shijie instantly became speechless. What Yuan Zhou said made a lot of sense.

"So, good night. I'm going to sleep." Yuan Zhou waved his hand and parted with Zhou Shijie before he went back to his own room.

While Zhou Shijie and Yuan Zhou were only waiting for the dishes leisurely, Chu Xiao likewise wasn't nervous. However, he was quite cautious.

"Andrew, you and I will prepare the dishes for that table tomorrow." Chu Xiao pointed at the place that he had arranged for Yuan Zhou and said that.

"Alright." The person called Andrew was a middle-aged white man with dark brown hair. He appeared mature and reliable and that was how he was.

"See you tomorrow." After saying that, Chu Xiao said goodbye to him.

...

The time spent waiting for delicacies always passed quickly, let alone the appointment was made at 12:00 at noon and it would take them 2 hours to drive there.

Therefore, Yuan Zhou did his morning exercises, had breakfast, and took a cab the entire morning before he arrived at the restaurant.

The restaurant was located at the north of Paris. It was a nice day. The sun was shining over the two-storeied red bricks of the restaurant, which looked beautiful and warm.

The canteen had only two floors and was surrounded by the beautiful gardens, where some cold-tolerant flowers were blossoming.

Red bricks, white walls, gardens and the primary-color solid-wood table all looked wonderful. Furthermore, this was only the scenery outside.

"The surroundings here are really nice." Yuan Zhou said while walking.

"Of course it's very good. It was formerly a territory of a nobleman, but was expropriated later. Then, it was redecorated and renovated. Of course, it's good-looking." Zhou Shijie pointed at the shop sign of the restaurant and explained.

"So that's why." Yuan Zhou nodded.

As soon as they entered the door, a pretty brown-haired waitress came up and greeted them.

"Hi, Mr. Zhou and Mr. Yuan. This way, please." The pretty brown-haired waitress showed them a place with much sunshine by the window.

It was Zhou Shijie who answered her while Yuan Zhou just stayed there still. After all, Yuan Zhou could only understand, but couldn't speak.

"This is the sequence of the dishes served today. Please have a look." The pretty brown-haired waitress handed the menu to them.

1st dish, Hors-d'oeuvre Froid (Honey Ham)

2nd dish, Potage (Crisp Onion Soup)

3rd dish, Hors-d'oeuvre Chaud (Creamy Chicken in Puff Pastry)

4th dish, Poisson (Dry Fried Tonguefish Matched with Lemon Juice)

5th dish, Grosse Piece (Homemade Goose Liver)

...

13th dish, Dessert (Lemon Seed Pastry)

"They look great." Looking at the menu all in French, Yuan Zhou contrarily spoke Mandarin.

"Yes, they are indeed good. Just serve the dishes like that, please." The first sentence was said to Yuan Zhou while the latter one was to the pretty brown-haired waitress.

"Ok. Wait a moment, please." The waitress nodded her head and then walked away politely.

"You must give your comments to the dishes after you eat in return for my treat." Zhou Shijie looked at Yuan Zhou and said earnestly.

"Don't worry, chairman. I will." Yuan Zhou nodded his head seriously.

"Wonderful." Chairman Zhou nodded.

Then, they were seated at the table and waited for the dishes quietly.

"Head chef, here are the ingredients for the appetizer." Andrew handed him the ingredients that had been processed.

Of course, it was totally prepared as per Chu Xiao's instructions. Except for the time he was washing the vegetables, he didn't touch any of them for long.

"Um, good. Put them here." Chu Xiao said that with his brows slightly knitted.

After he came back from the contest, he was stricter with the ingredients more than ever. The vegetables could only be picked



one hour before it was to be eaten and besides, they cannot be touched by hand directly. That caused a lot of problems.

Luckily, his strictness was already well known by his workers. Although they often complained secretly, they indeed worked more earnestly, yet with unsightly postures.

"It's a nice day today." Chu Xiao caught sight of Yuan Zhou who sat straight over there through the window. Then, he took a deep breath, took the knife and started to cook.

The dishes prepared today were naturally what Chu Xiao was good at.

Even Andrew couldn't help muttering inwardly, "I haven't seen the head chef work so earnestly in a long time. Those two people seem to be special."

"He surprisingly reserved that goose liver. Finally, I can learn the craftsmanship now." Thinking of the goose liver that had been reserved by Chu Xiao, Andrew felt fervent inwardly.

That was the top of the top. It was also an honor to see him deal with it as his assistant.

# Chapter 407: Evaluation, Goose Liver, and Yuan Zhou

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"Chairman Zhou, you must know the head chef here must be very familiar with him." Yuan Zhou observed the surroundings around them and suddenly said that.

"Really? How do you know that?" Zhou Shijie didn't try to conceal that matter and thus asked curiously.

"One has to make the reservation at least one month prior if he wants to eat in a Michelin Three Star Restaurant. Even though you know the head chef, you shouldn't be able to eat here so quickly." With a frown, Yuan Zhou thought of the rules and then said.

"What if I really made the reservation one month ago?" Zhou Shijie said smilingly.

"You'll definitely tell me about that." Yuan Zhou said confidently.

"Haw-haw. You are right. After eating, you'll know who the head chef is." Zhou Shijie winked at Yuan Zhou and said mysteriously.

"Um." Yuan Zhou nodded and asked nothing more.

Meanwhile, the dishes in the kitchen also started to be carried out one after another.

"Andrew, come here." At that time, Chu Xiao had put on the face mask, which made his voice sound a little hollow. However, Andrew still heard that immediately and ran over.

"Ok. Shall I scoop it up?" Andrew asked quite consciously.

"Do it one minute later. You watch it now and then scoop it up with this." Chu Xiao took a pair of chopsticks and handed to Andrew directly.

"No problem." Andrew answered him with full confidence.

The beautiful chopsticks had an ivory tone with a light pink

color, which was both pretty and fulfilling. They emitted a beautiful glossiness in the cool water.

"Head chef, this goose liver from the Southwest is really very nice. It also has a little bit of fragrance." Andrew scooped the goose liver up and put it down and then couldn't help saying that.

"It's from Strasbourg." Chu Xiao said lightly.

"I still feel the goose liver from the Southwest is the best." Andrew didn't dare to retort, but he still muttered in a low voice.

As a matter of fact, it wasn't surprising that Andrew said so. After all, the cuisine of goose liver didn't originate from France, but from ancient Egypt.

Then, it went to Rome and afterwards, France. During the rule of Louis XVI, goose liver was offered to the royal court as a tribute. After that, it was well-received by the king and became very popular among the people. Besides that, it was praised by many writers, musicians and artists of that time.

Ever since then, it has established itself as a noble delicacy.

The two production areas of the best goose liver were the southwest part and Strasbourg of France. Many people participated in the dispute over the positions of the two places, but they almost always matched evenly with each other.

"The red wine fed in the goose liver in Strasbourg conforms to my aesthetic appreciation more." Chu Xiao said to Andrew.

"I see." Andrew nodded his head.

Right after that, Chu Xiao completed the preparations for the specialty goose liver on his own. Of course, the side dishes were completed by Andrew based on the division of work assigned by Chu Xiao.

"Ta Ta Ta", along with the light footsteps, the brown-haired waitress carried the main cuisine to them.

The main cuisine was nevertheless a little special. Normally, dishes of French cuisines were all exquisite were of small amount; some even had the amount of only a mouthful.

Therefore, there was only one plate. However, this time was different. Including the brown-haired waitress, there were four pretty girls that came up while carrying the trays.

"Please let me change the dinnerware for you two." The waitress was another one who specifically changed dinnerware this time.

"Ok." Zhou Shijie answered.

Naturally, Yuan Zhou nodded his head with his usual aloof manner, indicating his consent.

"The main cuisine prepared by our head chef today is a little special. It's our specialty goose liver. Please have a look." The brown-haired waitress then uncovered the cooking pan.

Almost at the same time, there passed the frying sound of "Zi Zi" from inside. However, the fragrance of the goose liver came to them much quicker than the sound.

A slightly oily flavor yet with a little sweetness and sourness filled the noses of the two people. The fragrance came from the fried goose liver with a beautiful color.

"Hum... It turns out to be top-notch goose liver. Such a mellow fragrance is really wonderful." Zhou Shijie commented first.

"It's indeed very good except the apple." Yuan Zhou immediately revealed that the scent of sweetness and sourness came from an apple.

Even if there wasn't the shadow of an apple at all on the plate.

"Let me taste it first." Zhou Shijie didn't say much, but just signaled Yuan Zhou to eat first.

"The design of the plate is fairly interesting." Yuan Zhou noticed the plate of the dish, yet not because it was good-looking.

After all, the plate provided by the system was more beautiful. It was just that there was a thermometer on the plate showing the current temperature of the goose liver.

"It's exactly 35.5 degrees, the temperature of the human body. At that temperature, the fat in the goose liver barely melts." Before Yuan Zhou came over here, he had made good preparations about French dishes.

Therefore, he was quite familiar with the goose liver, the most famous French dish.

"So it is. The temperature is really controlled well." Zhou Shijie took a look and really found the plate was showing the temperature.

If the dish was carried to them after it's cooked, the temperature naturally wouldn't be as good and precise for people to eat. Actually, the dish was definitely well cooked on the way to them.

Therefore, the goose liver was just perfect to be eaten when it was served on the table. It was quite difficult to make the process so concise. That was also the reason why Zhou Shijie was so surprised.

"Great indeed." Yuan Zhou also nodded his head affirmatively.

After saying that, Yuan Zhou started to enjoy the dish.

At that time, the etiquette of eating western-style dish finally came in handy.

Formerly, Yuan Zhou used the knife and fork as per his own habits. Naturally, there wasn't any aesthetic feeling.

But it was different now. Yuan Zhou lifted the knife lightly and pressed it on the tender goose liver softly.

Then, the knife penetrated it without effort. Yuan Zhou immediately cut a small piece and stuffed it into his mouth.

Instantly, the mellow fragrance of the goose liver alike to the

faint fragrance of fresh chestnuts flooded into his mouth along with the intoxicating red wine.

They started to give a dance in the mouth impatiently. As the inlet temperature was close to the body temperature, it wasn't abrupt at all. Because of that, the goose liver contrarily melted immediately upon entering the mouth without even chewing.

Although Yuan Zhou only ate a small piece, its fragrance and fine texture fermented ceaselessly in his mouth, which continuously emitted much fragrance.

The fine texture mixed with the top-notch fragrance made even Yuan Zhou feel difficult to resist.

"As expected of goose liver." There appeared a smile on Yuan Zhou's face.

"Of course. That must be attributed to the craftsmanship and ingenuity of the head chef." Zhou Shijie likewise nodded his head and echoed.

"Absolutely. It's really an originality to blend the apple juice in the butter and make it into the apple butter and then fry the goose liver with it." After only one mouthful, Yuan Zhou recognized the ingredients and said that.

"It turns out they added the butter at the very beginning. Originally, only a little butter is needed. Never have I thought it to be so." Zhou Shijie patted on his head and suddenly found it was really so after he thought for a while.

"Plus with the cooking method of roasting only the iron plate instead of frying the goose liver directly, the temperature can be precisely controlled at 35.5 degrees when it's served to us." Yuan Zhou straightforwardly brought out the reason why two servings of goose liver would need four waitresses.

The remaining two waitresses were naturally approaching to take away the iron plate without leaving a trace.

"Isn't that so, Head Chef Chu?" After saying that, Yuan Zhou turned his head and said that as if he had felt something.

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# Chapter 408: Starting to Posture

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"Isn't that right, Head Chef Chu?" Yuan Zhou didn't stand up, but just turned his head and looked at Chu Xiao.

Chu Xiao was dressed in a pure white chef uniform. The tall chef's hat stood for the identity of the head chef.

There was not a single crease on the uniform. Matched with his pretty face, it seemed to conform to people's appreciation of beauty well and made him appear extraordinarily handsome.

It was likewise rare for Yuan Zhou to wear a business suit, specifically a dark blue striped business suit.

Although Yuan Zhou wasn't fat, he had broad shoulders due to the daily exercises. Therefore, he was quite good-looking in a business suit. On the whole, he looked spirited and mature with great charm.

Even when he was sitting, there emitted a strong aura from him, which was the bonus from his culinary skills.

The aura was impressive. People couldn't touch it, but it did exist.

"That's right. So what do you think, Boss Yuan?" Chu Xiao walked over to him with Andrew.

Walking behind him, Andrew was nevertheless trying to diminish his sense of existence.

What a joke! They had stood still there for quite a while and coincidentally heard Yuan Zhou say that the apple wasn't good.

Who was Chu Xiao? He was the youngest Michelin Three Star Chef in history and always convinced people with his culinary skills in the kitchen. Besides that, he was a man of his word.

Having eaten dishes prepared by Chu Xiao, even the senior and top-level critics wouldn't say anything bad, let alone a layman.



However, this young man that came from nowhere surprisingly said that once he spoke. How was it possible that Chu Xiao would feel good?

The current state of Chu Xiao could best account for that.

"This cooking method is indeed one of the best choices. But there's a problem on the selection of apples and that causes the goose liver to become sourer by one point." Yuan Zhou said quite seriously.

"I sincerely request for your comments, Boss Yuan." Chu Xiao said with a manner of cynicism.

"You are using the Gina apples from France. It's produced in the Mediterranean climate zone in South France. Contrarily, the production area of the goose liver is Strasbourg." Yuan Zhou brought out the producing areas of the apples and the goose liver in one breath.

"T'esvraimenttropfort, monpote!" Andrew immediately spat out an exclamation.

This sentence in French was translated into Chinese as, "Awesome, bro!"

Except Chu Xiao and Yuan Zhou, everybody that understood French on site laughed.

After all, Andrew's manner of surprise was way too conspicuous.

Even Zhou Shijie couldn't help saying, "It isn't difficult for him. You should have been used to that."

"Yes, of course. But I have always thought only Chu Xiao is a genius. Are the young people nowadays all so awesome?" It seemed that Andrews just felt it difficult to accept that.

"Haw-haw-haw. Indeed. Young people nowadays are that awesome." Zhou Shijie burst into laughter. Then he nodded his head and said.

Andrew nodded continuously.

In Andrew's opinion, it was way too amazing that one could tell the origin of the dish just by tasting a little. After all, it was common to give a comment of "delicious", but now he almost brought out everything about it. How could he not be surprised?

"So on the aspect of taste, the two ingredients should complement each other. But there's a defect concerning Gina apples. As its taste is more like the Red Delicious Apple, the sourness will slightly increase after it's squeezed." Having paid no attention to Andrew's praise, Yuan Zhou continued saying that.

"Of course, I know that." Chu Xiao didn't take it seriously.

"So for the sourness, you added a little maltose to adjust the taste. However, the maltose itself contains a little bit sourness." Yuan Zhou didn't have any intention of showing off his knowledge, but instead, he just said lightly.

"I added only one gram!!!" Andrew looked at Yuan Zhou with an unbelievable gaze.

"Is this damn guy really a human? He's really a monster like the boss!" Andrew's gaze moved between Yuan Zhou and Chu Xiao. Of course, the meaning was just contained in his gaze.

"I see." Chu Xiao thought about it inwardly and found it was really like what Yuan Zhou commented.

After heating, the maltose would emit a slight sourness which then went into the butter. Such a taste would undoubtedly penetrate the tender goose liver.

"If the Gina Apple was replaced with Wang Lin Apple, the elegant orchid-like aroma will penetrate the goose liver and it will then taste better. Of course, its texture of 40% sourness and 55% sweetness is better." Yuan Zhou brought out another match of ingredients.

"Besides that, it will be better to use the orchid-like aroma to

match the fragrance of chestnuts originally contained in the goose liver." Yuan Zhou added.

Of course, he drank some water without turning a hair after that. Seldom did Yuan Zhou speak such long paragraphs of words.

"The strong orchid-like aroma will affect the pure fragrance and texture of the goose liver." Chu Xiao said quite confidently.

"Yes. So it's the best choice to feed cows with the apples. Then add some drops of the milk into the butter in order to stimulate the fragrance of the Wang Lin Apple." Yuan Zhou continued saying naturally.

"Of course, the feeding time can't be less than one year." Yuan Zhou thought for a while and continued.

After that came a long silence. Chu Xiao was thinking about the feasibility while Zhou Shijie was thinking of something unknown to others; Andrew didn't dare to say anything.

As for Yuan Zhou, he was eating the dishes carefully as if he was irrelevant to this matter.

It was a basic respect to a chef to finish the dishes. Yuan Zhou had realized this problem even last time and likewise had already started to set an example by personally taking part.

"Little Yuan, is there another solution if we don't feed the cows for one year?" Zhou Shijie suddenly faced Yuan Zhou and asked.

"Yes. We can change a variety and put some onions inside. Then, the two types of fragrance will exist side by side and play a part together. Apart from that, it will also have the function of improving health." Yuan Zhou thought for a little while and said straightforwardly.

"Use the spring onion. Its flakes and flesh are all white. The peppery taste is light while the sweetness is strong." Chu Xiao added.

"Correct." Yuan Zhou nodded his head.

"Never have I thought that Boss Yuan also has so much knowledge of French dishes." Looking at Yuan Zhou, Chu Xiao said earnestly.

"Not really. I just read something before and know a little about it." Yuan Zhou was truly not modest while speaking of that.

After all, he was now just a person that hadn't fully mastered a single series of regional cuisines.

He was merely good at several dishes in each regional cuisine which happened to cover the French dishes.

"You are way too modest." Chu Xiao had a more western mindset, thus he said directly.

"No, I mean it." Yuan Zhou said seriously while frowning.

"Why does nobody believe that I'm telling the truth?" Yuan Zhou said inwardly with puzzlement.

"Um." Chu Xiao wasn't in a good mood now. His mistake was easily recognized by others and his conspicuous posturing ended up to become a foolish deed. Of course there were some vague sentiments in his heart.

However, he didn't go so far as to become angry. What Chu Xiao felt proud of were his genius and great efforts.

For a little while, there was only the slight sound of the dinnerware in the restaurant. Andrew tried his best to diminish his sense of existence and meanwhile thought of a Chinese famous saying.

"Being close to the emperor is like being close to a tiger."

"I'm done. It turns out to be a great choice of food. I haven't eaten such an authentic meal for long. Thank you, head chef." Zhou Shijie broke the silence and said contentedly while stroking his well-trimmed beard.

"I'm sorry. The defects today must have affected the experience of you two." Chu Xiao apologized clearly.

"Never mind. That's nothing. But remember that I will treat you to dinner next time since you treated me this time." Zhou Shijie said indifferently at the beginning and right following that, he said earnestly while looking at Chu Xiao.

"Don't stand me up."

"Certainly." Chu Xiao nodded his head.

Seated at the side, Yuan Zhou revealed an indifferent manner, even if he knew Zhou Shijie prepared to take Chu Xiao to his restaurant for the meal.

This was the confidence of Yuan Zhou.

## Chapter 409: A Test (Two)

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"We have dined and wined. So we are leaving now." Along with Zhou Shijie's salutation, Yuan Zhou also stood up.

"See you." Yuan Zhou looked at Chu Xiao and nodded his head slightly, saying that.

"See you next time." Chu Xiao also nodded calmly.

Then, the footsteps of "Ta Ta Ta" sounded while Yuan Zhou walked out of the door after Zhou Shijie.

"Hooo." Only then did Andrew became relieved.

"Clear the dinnerware away." Chu Xiao signaled the waitress that waited for his instructions at the side.

"Head chef, can you take me along with you when you go to China next time?" Andrew followed Chu Xiao step by step and said that after quite a while.

"Give me a reason." Without turning his head, Chu Xiao asked straightforwardly.

"I want to witness if that guy who is as tasteful as you can cook well enough for that elegant taste." Andrew spoke with elegant French.

He sounded fairly sincere and natural, without any hint of fawning over Chu Xiao.

"Sure." Chu Xiao nodded his head and agreed.

"Thank you so much, head chef." Andrew made a gesture of victory secretly without a trace.

On the other side, Zhou Shijie and Yuan Zhou had set out for China after they attended the new dish release conference.

"Little Yuan, do you have any thoughts during your trip here?" Zhou Shijie asked in high spirits.

"Yes. That chef called Felix and the vegetable garden that he took us to visit was quite impressive." When Zhou Shijie asked Yuan Zhou about that, Yuan Zhou thought of the person naturally.

It was the second day of the exchange and coincidentally, this Felix was a friend of Zhou Shijie's disciple. So, after he guided them to savor the new dishes, he also invited them to visit his own vegetable garden enthusiastically.

It was also the source of the food ingredients used for the new dishes.

Felix's vegetable garden was about 1.5 hours' drive from his restaurant. It was about 1.2 hectares large and was managed very well.

"Are these vegetables all planted by himself?" Yuan Zhou asked curiously.

Zhou Shijie's disciple translated for them consciously at the side.

"No, I hire people to look after them. Occasionally, I also come to take care of them personally." Felix answered enthusiastically.

"Do you always pick them one day earlier when you need them?" Yuan Zhou continued asking.

"Of course. The vegetables will be fresher that way." Felix nodded his head.

Then, they continued to follow him and visit the garden. He also raised some small animals in the estate for food.

"Why this one?" Zhou Shijie asked curiously.

"I can see the quality of the vegetables and ingredients personally." Yuan Zhou said earnestly.

"That is indeed so. It feels more private." Zhou Shijie nodded.

"But there are also these kinds of restaurants in our hometown. You can even pick the vegetables by yourself and cook them on site." Zhou Shijie continued saying.

Then, the two people started to chat about this topic.

They changed a flight, waited, and then took off. Time passed very soon. As soon as they arrived at the Beijing international airport, Yuan Zhou couldn't help but take a deep breath.

"Um. It's still the same taste, full of the exhaust and haze. What a familiar taste!" Yuan Zhou said expressionlessly.

"Haw-haw. It's indeed so." Zhou Shijie also nodded his head with a smile.

"Let's move. We still have a long way to go." Zhou Shijie said while pointing at the car in front of them.

The plane took off again. It had been 11:00 p.m. when they arrived in Chengdu.

The midnight bell sounded exactly when Yuan Zhou stood at the crossroads of the side street.

"Hua La Hua La".

There was only the sound of his suitcase moving on the ground in the silent street. Suddenly, a dark shadow appeared in the distance.

"What's that?" Yuan Zhou became astounded and paused a little while before he continued walking forward.

"Woof woof." It was the dog barking.

Yuan Zhou walked closer and then got relieved, "It turns out to be you. Why didn't you go guard the restaurant since it's so late?"

It was Broth that stood in front of him. He barked at Yuan Zhou with a low voice.

Although his voice was filled with happiness, he just squatted and kept unmoving there. He gazed at Yuan Zhou silently with his black eyes and didn't even wag his tail.

"Are you still so prideful? You are a dog. Is it really difficult for



you to wag your tail to welcome me?" Having relaxed himself, Yuan Zhou became talkative. He pointed at the motionless tail of Broth and started to ridicule.

In response to him, however, Broth just stood up and then turned and left as if he were leading the way. He totally paid no attention to Yuan Zhou's request.

"Ok, fine. It's a fake dog that can't wag its tail." Yuan Zhou looked at the arrogant manner of the dog in front of him and couldn't help ridiculing.

Broth was naturally leading Yuan Zhou to the back door of the restaurant. He didn't stop until they walked to the back door.

He squatted at his empty bowl and didn't walk anymore.

"What the f\*ck! I thought you came out to greet me. But it seems you came to tell me you are hungry." Yuan Zhou supported his forehead and said helplessly.

Then, Broth sat by the bowl and stayed silent while looking at Yuan Zhou. Along with the curled fur on the face and the black eyes, he appeared quite lovable.

"Understood. I will carry the food out for you later. You must have evolved into a human." Though Yuan Zhou was ridiculing, he looked very happy.

It was also a warmth to have Broth waiting for him, a warmth from the hairy dog, even if it did that for a bowl of broth.

"Ka La", the door was unlocked.

"Pa"

He switched on the light. Without any change, the kitchen was still how it had been.

As for the dust, Yuan Zhou didn't worry about that at all after he got the system.

"It's still the same as before." Yuan Zhou smiled a lot more than

usual tonight.

"So much dust on me. Let me first wash up and then cook the midnight snack." Looking at the familiar kitchenware, Yuan Zhou had an impulsion to cook immediately, but he still controlled himself from doing that.

"Dong Dong Dong", Yuan Zhou picked up the suitcase and went upstairs quickly to wash up. After that, he changed clothes and came downstairs to cook.

"Clear Broth Noodle Soup plus a fried egg." Yuan Zhou opened the cabinet and immediately decided what to eat.

While the broth was being boiled, Yuan Zhou also kneaded the noodles. After throwing them into the broth, he started to fry the egg at once.

Yuan Zhou shook the egg slightly and then broke it into the pan. Instantly, the oil sizzled.

The scorching aroma of the egg filled the air.

"It's so fragrant!" Yuan Zhou didn't wear the face mask this time. He just cooked his midnight snack freely and naturally like that.

A bowl of Clear Broth Noodle Soup didn't require much time. Therefore, Yuan Zhou completed the cooking very soon and started to eat.

The system suddenly came to join in the fun.

The system displayed, "The requirements for a test has been reached. The second test hereby commences."

[A Second Test] to cook five dishes whose name is different from the dish itself

[Test Reward] Whenever you finish one, you can get all ingredients required by the dish.

"Huh? The name being inconsistent with the dish itself?" Yuan Zhou repeated once with curiosity.

The system displayed, "Yes."

"Does the Frog Cake① count?" Yuan Zhou suddenly thought of the food.

The system displayed, "It can be one."

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① Frog Cake is a local snack in Li'jing District of Yun'nan Province. It's a kind of thick flour-made pancake with stuffings (meat or vegetables) inside, which looks like the mouth of a frog.

# Chapter 410: Antagonists Die From Talking Too Much

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"If the Frog Cake counts as one, then what about the Rolling Donkey (a typical Beijing snack)?" Yuan Zhou asked tentatively.

The system displayed, "Yes, that conforms to the requirements."

"So it's ok as long as the name doesn't conform to the dish itself, right?" Yuan Zhou suddenly thought of many names of such dishes all at once.

The system displayed, "The name of each dish must include an animal."

"With the name of animals, right?" Yuan Zhou removed unqualified dishes from his mind habitually.

Having thought for a while, Yuan Zhou suddenly reacted.

"Wait. This requirement wasn't included in the mission at the beginning." Yuan Zhou was quite sure that he had found a bug in the system and thus he said affirmatively. The system displayed, "Since the host has been completing missions smoothly, apart from the reward of One Hundred Ways of Making Mantou, I hereby make this particular requirement so that you can complete the mission better."

"I bet you must have forgotten that at the beginning and made the amendment now." Yuan Zhou said in an affirmative tone.

However, the system had no reaction. After quite a while, Yuan Zhou said again.

"System, don't think that if you praise me, I will neglect that bug of yours. That One Hundred Ways of Making Mantou has been rewarded for quite a long time." Yuan Zhou's purpose was naturally to see if he can get an additional reward.

The system displayed, "Antagonists die from talking too much."

Seeing that, Yuan Zhou became stupefied for an instant but then said confidently, "However, I'm using the protagonist template."

What a joke! Which protagonist do you recall that did not possess excellent speaking skills?

For example, people like Uz\*maki N\*ruto or M\*nkey L\*ffy. As a result, Yuan Zhou was quite sure that he could survive until the end of a TV drama rather than just two episodes.

Having thought of that affirmatively, Yuan Zhou ate up the noodles quickly with a sound of "Hu Li Hu Lu" and prepared to feed Broth with the remaining broth.

"Today is noodle broth. You can have some." Yuan Zhou set down the bowl and said to Broth who was about to hold the bowl and leave.

However, Broth just looked back at Yuan Zhou and then left without hesitation.

After that, Yuan Zhou went to bed and fell asleep as quickly as he can. It was the following morning when he opened his eyes, more precisely, the time when he went to do morning exercises.

"Hooo...", Yuan Zhou let out a sigh and became totally clear-headed.

"What a nice day! I can serve a new dish." Yuan Zhou opened the window and said naturally while looking at the gray sky.

Even the bad weather couldn't stop Yuan Zhou from jogging. Therefore, Yuan Zhou only started to prepare the breakfast after his exercise.

This time, Yuan Zhou prepared the dish while leaving the door open. He wanted to let those who hadn't seen him for a week see him in case they missed him too much.

"You are finally back. I thought you were kidnapped by aliens." Wu Hai rushed over here hurriedly and gnashed his teeth while

saying that.

"Exactly. We all thought you were kidnapped by muscular men," even Ling Hong said leisurely.

"If I was kidnapped, it would definitely be the pretty girls that kidnap me." Yuan Zhou knitted his brows and said with an extraordinarily earnest tone.

"Boss Yuan, you better cook some delicacies carefully and soothe our wounded hearts." Man Man crossed her arms against her chest and said discontentedly.

"Yeah. We are all waiting." Wu Zhou also went up and joined in the fun.

"You don't come frequently. What are you excited for?" Zhao Yingjun looked at Wu Zhou with puzzlement.

"No, you don't understand. Even if I don't eat it, it's also very pleasing to just look at it everyday." Wu Zhou said seriously.

"The Frog Cakes will be provided as breakfast today." Amidst the great noise, Yuan Zhou straightforwardly announced.

"There's really a new dish. What a smart guy I am!" Ma Zhida, who was known as The Little Prince of New Dishes, became pretty happy when he heard Yuan Zhou.

"I feel terrible. Is it prepared using the flesh of frogs?" A girl in line thought of that the very first moment.

"The flesh is still acceptable. But the skin is, well.... I just can't bear it." The tall girl accompanying Yuan Yuan had a lingering fear on her face.

"I think frogs are very cute and the taste is supposed to be good." While looking at Yuan Zhou's restaurant, Yuan Yuan remembered the nice taste of the Beef and Blueberry Jam and thus said expectantly.

"Ho Ho." The tall girl took a look at Yuan Yuan helplessly.

Meanwhile, she decided not to eat it later if it was really made from the flesh of the frog.

"Everybody, the business time for breakfast is to about to commence. Please line up." The voice came from the queuing committee.

The queuing committee was founded by the senior foodies of Yuan Zhou's restaurant. The core members included Wu Zhou, Wu Hai, Ling Hong, Sun Ming, Jiang Changxi and Yin Ya, etc.

They were responsible for maintaining the order of the daily queueing. Therefore, this work need not trouble Zhou Jia anymore.

However, they actually did that for mutual benefits. After all, if everyone saved time for others, they could also be able to eat the dishes next time even if they were late. It was a positive cycle.

Of course, those several rich people likewise prepared to repair some common facilities. If others agreed to obey you, you had to do something to maintain their relationships.

"Everybody, please line up now and enter the restaurant as per your number." Zhou Jia went up and said smilingly.

"Hey, you brat. You refuse me everytime I invite you to eat together. It turns out that you have been staying here?" Ling Hong wasn't here alone this time. He brought a friend along with him and this friend said that with a ridiculing tone.

"I am treating today. So don't let me down, ok?" Ling Hong put his arm over his friend's shoulder and walked into the restaurant.

The friend of Ling Hong was Gao Xin. He was 1.8 meters tall, more or less the same height as Ling Hong. However, he looked much thinner than Ling Hong and also revealed an unsatisfied expression on his face.

He wasn't as handsome as Ling Hong, but appeared more like a good-looking youngster, except for the dark purple hair. He was

dressed in a flaxen jacket, colorful pants, and a pair of white casual shoes.

On the whole, he looked fashionable and eccentric, appearing difficult to get along with.

"Come on. What delicious food could this shabby restaurant serve?" Gao Xin directly shook off Ling Hong's arm and revealed a look of contempt.

"No problem. You can leave after you order the dishes and I will eat them alone." Ling Hong didn't really care whether or not Gao Xin ate here.

He didn't intend to introduce the delicacies in Yuan Zhou's restaurant to him, either. In this regard, he was like Lee Yanyi who was reluctant to write any comments about Yuan Zhou's restaurant.

"Ok. I'll stay, for the sake of our friendship." Gao Xin shrugged and indicated that he didn't care.

"Good." After a nod, Ling Hong turned his head and said to Zhou Jia.

"One Frog Cake for him and one for me."

"Ok. One moment, please." Zhou Jia nodded her head and didn't ask anything more.

"It's so rare to see you behave yourself." Gao Xin supported his head and said curiously.

"Among eating, clothing, housing, and transportation, eating always ranks among first. That's why." Ling Hong shrugged.

"If you like, why don't you buy this restaurant? Everything has a price. Why go through so much trouble?" Gao Xin said as if it were obvious.

Nevertheless, Ling Hong didn't answer him, but just shook his head.



"Forget it. Whatever you like." Gao Xin appeared bored to death. He bent over on the long curved table like a dead dog.

There were only 100 Frog Cakes prepared by Yuan Zhou, but he still ate three ahead of all others.

"Frog Cakes for you two." Zhou Jia carried two plates to them this time.

"Huh, are the leaves also edible? They are so beautiful." Instead of straightening himself up, Gao Xin just raised his eyes and took a look.

"Haha. It's indeed so. I'm going to eat now." Ling Hong didn't answer him, but just moved the food toward himself.

Only when seeing Gao Xin truly have no interest in the food did Ling Hong start to observe his Frog Cake earnestly.

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# Chapter 411: Yummy Frog Cakes

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The plate that Zhou Jia carried up to the customers was presumably the simplest one in Yuan Zhou's restaurant.

It was but a flat white plate without any patterns on it.

"Is this the lotus leaf?" Ling Hong looked at the verdant leaf laid in the plate and said.

"Yes. It's used to wrap the Frog Cakes." Zhou Jia nodded her head at the side.

"Why the lotus leaf?" When Gao Xin heard that, he muttered and happened to be heard by Zhou Jia.

"Boss Yuan says that the frog should obviously stay on the lotus leaf, therefore he used the lotus leaf." Zhou Jia was quite proud when she said that.

The reason why she appeared so proud was certainly because of Yuan Zhou's craftsmanship.

"This lotus leaf is taken from Sanjia Village." After that, Zhou Jia remembered that she didn't mention the place and hence added.

"It's supposed to be withered during this time of year." Ling Hong said with curiosity.

"There's supposedly a pond of lotus left unwithered during these recent few days." Wu Hai suddenly said at the side.

"Ok. I see." Ling Hong nodded his head.

Gao Xin was still bent over the table indifferently like a dead dog. At least in Ling Hong's opinion, he appeared to be so.

After they debated over the lotus leaves, it was the turn of the main cuisine, the Frog Cakes.

Speaking of which, the Frog Cake was but a palm-sized round cake without any decorations concerning a frog, let alone being

made like a frog.

If the lotus leaf wasn't included, of course.

Not long after, however, Ling Hong discovered the meaning of the name.

"Haha. It's really a Frog Cake." Ling Hong burst into laughter and said proudly.

"You are just eating a cake. What are you laughing for?" Gao Xin said impatiently.

"You don't understand." Ling Hong didn't get angry, but just said straightforwardly.

The cake wasn't really in the shape of a frog. Instead, it was a palm-sized regular round cake.

It was supposed to be baked. With a circle of golden-brown color around, the white and soft cake looked fairly crispy and yummy.

Along with the roasted fragrance of wheat flour, it made people unable to resist its attractions.

The Frog Cake was about a finger-width thick. Yuan Zhou made an opening at the lateral side with the knife, making it look like the wide open mouth of a frog.

It was the origin of the name of Frog Cake.

A piece of verdant vegetable was stuffed in the white and soft cake as well as some beef slices that had been wrapped in the red sauce.

The white cake, beef slices in red sauce, fresh vegetables, and scorched crust on the surface made Ling Hong directly pick one up and take a bite.

After a sound of "Ka Ca", Ling Hong bit off a big piece of the cake.

As expected, the skin of the cake was crisp along with a slight scorched fragrance while the inside was incredibly soft.

It was like the Thousand-Layer Mantou's pure wheat fragrance. The strong red sauce rushed straight to his throat before one could feel the bland taste of the cake.

"Hiss." Ling Hong couldn't help inhaling and then chewed immediately.

"Ka Ca Ka Ca", the crisp and fresh vegetable stuffed in the Frog Cake was then chewed up. A refreshing taste of vegetables balanced the pungency of the red sauce out and thus the beef became fragrant, spicy and, tasty.

After chewing it carefully, Ling Hong realized that the beef was the essence of the entire Frog Cake as it had coordinated all the tastes.

With the wheat fragrance of the cake as the basis, the pungency of the red sauce was clear and vivid while the crisp vegetables still carried a spark of the unique sweetness of the salad.

"The beef is way too delicious. It definitely tastes good if it's made into steak." Ling Hong couldn't help saying that.

Indeed. When Ling Hong started to bite the beef, it tasted extraordinarily tender.

Though the beef slices were very thin, the gravy contained therein overflowed slowly from the top of the tongue. After chewing slightly, the beef slid into the throat together with all the food.

During the process, the beef coordinated all the tastes and integrated them altogether.

If Yuan Zhou knew Ling Hong's thoughts, he would naturally agree with him.

Because there were only three pieces of the beef slices in the Frog Cake, but they had an extraordinary background.

"Isn't this piece the coin tendon of the cattle?" Yuan Zhou asked

that with puzzlement when he pickled it last night.

The system displayed, "This piece is the anterior tendon taken from the Argentina cattle. It's the part of the joint of the front legs of the cattle."

"As the pattern of the beef slices is similar to that of the ancient coins, it gets this name."

"Besides, as the front legs move less and bear less pressure of the heavy body, this part is better than the beef shin. It's tender and delicious as well as chewy."

"Stop, stop. Please stop." Yuan Zhou supported his own forehead helplessly.

As expected, the system really stopped, but Yuan Zhou couldn't help but ridicule it.

"I posture in front of others calmly everyday while you always show off your knowledge every day." Looking at the introductions of the beef, Yuan Zhou couldn't help saying.

The system displayed, "Getting more knowledge of the ingredients can help to improve one's culinary skills."

"I really don't know what to say now. Ok, then you continue posturing and I will watch you silently." Yuan Zhou paused obviously and then said earnestly.

The system displayed, "For the best interest of the cattle, the system lets the cattle herd move about and graze in the vast grassland freely."

"What's more, the farm actually raises very little cattle. As a result, every cattle occupies at least two meadows, of which the diameter is above 1000 meters, to run freely rather than stay in the narrow cowshed every day."

"Cattle raised in that surroundings are free from the possibility of being infected with diseases and are also happier than those raised

in the cowshed. Therefore, this system is actually raising the healthy and happy cattle that grazes in the pasture."

"You are right. It's very good. It just looks like the advertisement for fertilizers." Yuan Zhou said frankly and straightforwardly.

The system displayed, "This cattle is pure white and lives in pollution-free areas. In order to get the top-quality beef, the system only chooses the virgin Queen Cattle to raise."

"Instead of fresh pasture, it only eats the cured hay specially blended with soybean, corn and wheat."

"It's truly particular about its food." Yuan Zhou continued ridiculing.

Then, the system started to introduce various living activities of the Queen Cattle.

Yuan Zhou read all the information seriously.

As for other introductions that the system only used the freshest two leaves for the vegetables and collected the remaining ones, Yuan Zhou was already prepared for that.

After all, it likewise only used the core part of the watermelon.

Yuan Zhou also prepared the red sauce personally this time because he wanted to eat the red sauce noodles for lunch. Of course, it was prepared by himself without the system's help.

Ling Hong had such a sharp tongue that he could tell what was good. Therefore, he still couldn't help uttering while he was eating blissfully right now.

His voice was very clear and could be heard by anyone.

"Boss Yuan, when will you prepare to serve steak? It will be perfect if you can use this beef to make the steak." Ling Hong enjoyed the delicacy of the Frog Cake and said.

"Temporarily, I don't have that plan." Yuan Zhou considered for a while carefully and then he answered.

"Pity. What a pity!" Ling Hong didn't forget to talk while eating it blissfully.

"You are way too exaggerated. Is it really so delicious|?" Gao Xin couldn't help asking that at the side.

"Of course." Ling Hong nodded his head.

Just before Ling Hong reacted, Gao Xin took the other Frog Cake and stuffed it into his mouth while speaking.

"Wait. That's mine." Ling Hong shouted.

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## Chapter 412: Stage Goal

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"What are you talking about? It's obviously mine." Gao Xin revealed a puzzled look, however, he didn't actually slow down his actions of stuffing the food into his own mouth.

"We have reached an agreement that these all belong to me." Ling Hong seized Gao Xin's wrist immediately.

"The deal is off. It's merely a cake. You can buy another one." The more you stopped him from eating, the more he wanted to eat. This was Gao Xin's personality.

He didn't intend to let go of the cake at all.

"I paid the money." Ling Hong appeared to be quite speechless. If only he could get another one!

"I'll pay you back ten times more." When Gao Xin stuck to something, he was likewise very smart.

Just like now, he passed the Frog Cake in his right hand to the left and then took a bite.

The entire movement appeared quite practiced like the floating clouds and flowing water.

"You bastard. Shame on you." Ling Hong took a look at the Frog Cake that was bitten by Gao Xin.

However, Gao Xin had no time to attend or retort to Ling Hong's sarcasm.

The wonderful taste in the mouth made him finally understand why Ling Hong had sighed with emotion while eating a cake just now.

"Slurp Slurp", Gao Xin was taking the cake and eating it quite blissfully very quickly.

"Humph." Ling Hong couldn't help but humph coldly.



"Ho Ho." Gao Xin nevertheless just bared his teeth and smiled proudly to Ling Hong.

According to Ling Hong's hot temper, he would have already rushed to him and beat him. Seeing Gao Xin was about to finish the cake, however, he rolled his eyes and sat down quietly.

Obviously, he was going to be up to mischief.

The regular customers of Yuan Zhou's restaurant all knew a principle that they must eat very slowly. Though such delicious dishes were to be finished in the end, they still slowed down their eating speed properly.

But Gao Xin was new, thus he didn't know that. Since the dishes were so tasty, he naturally started to eat as quickly as he can.

A palm-sized Frog Cake could be eaten up in just a few minutes.

"Perfect. Boss, get me another one." Gao Xin wiped his mouth and said loudly as soon as he put down the lotus leaf.

At the side, Ling Hong just crossed his arms against the chest and looked at Gao Xin with a look of glee.

"Sorry, sir. Each customer may only have one serving of a single dish per meal." Zhou Jia explained expertly.

"Are you so hardhearted to do that to a customer that's eating blissfully? Your strategy of hunger marketing is really awesome!" There appeared obvious displeasure on Gao Xin's face.

"Not really. This is our rule and it has been carried out for quite a long time." Zhou Jia still smiled and said.

"Interesting. Ok, fine. I don't care. Anyway, I don't like it." Gao Xin appeared to be indifferent to that. Of course, it would be more convincing if he didn't look at others' Frog Cake occasionally.

"Then, I decide to buy this restaurant." When Gao Xin said that, he didn't appear to be buying a restaurant, but some steamed buns that were worth little on the street.

"I'm sorry. We don't have any plans to sell our restaurant." Zhou Jia still kept smiling.

"Let your boss come here." Gao Xin waved his head and cared little about Zhou Jia's refusal.

"What can I do for you?" Yuan Zhou happened to hear him and then he went up to come.

"How much is your restaurant? I will buy it." Gao Xin looked up at Yuan Zhou and said straightforwardly.

"Sorry, I don't want to sell it." Yuan Zhou said calmly.

"Just tell me how much money you want. At least, I can afford a restaurant at this location." Gao Xin said with an extraordinarily generous tone.

"Are you a friend of Ling Hong's?" Yuan Zhou didn't answer him this time, but asked back.

"Yes." Gao Xin nodded his head.

Having confirmed the answer, Yuan Zhou smiled inwardly but appeared quite serious, saying earnestly.

"Now that you are his friend, I can make an offer of 100 million." Yuan Zhou said that more casually than Gao Xin did.

"Damn it. Can you quote a price seriously?" Gao Xin was waiting for Yuan Zhou's quotation earnestly

He was thinking that Yuan Zhou would definitely offer a better price since he was Ling Hong's friend. Never had he imagined that Yuan Zhou would offer such a damn high price.

"By the way, 100 million in USD." Yuan Zhou said considerately.

"Cough cough cough." Gao Xin got choked straightforwardly.

"You are openly robbing. Such a small restaurant is only worth one million RMB. And I give you this price mainly because that you cook well." Gao Xin's white face was turning red. He was only one

inch off pointing at Yuan Zhou and scolding him for getting his hopes up.

"If you can't afford it, please don't think about it anymore. People are still waiting for the seats behind." Seeing Gao Xin's speechless manner, Yuan Zhou said quite seriously.

As for Yuan Zhou, he couldn't help laughing out inwardly.

Just when Gao Xin was prepared to say something, Ling Hong said ahead of him.

"Haha. Even if you can afford it, you have to ask these customers for approval first." Ling Hong couldn't help laughing and saying.

"Stupid!" A customer at the side couldn't help but ridicule him when he heard the conversation.

"Exactly. He seems to be brought here by No Discount Ling." Another customer said in a low voice.

"Tsk. By comparison, No Discount Ling is better. At least, he's normal." After comparing the two people, a customer said directly.

With his sharp eyes and eyes, Ling Hong heard that and immediately grinned at the talking customer. In the current society, being normal was also an advantage.

"Stop it. Don't play the fool anymore. Quickly eat it and leave with me." Ling Hong dragged Gao Xin immediately.

"I'm still hungry." Gao Xin said discontentedly.

"Why aren't you like a dead dog now?" Ling Hong turned his head and said.

"I was too hungry to move just now." Gao Xin said angrily.

"It can't be helped. Nowadays, talented people all have various weird requirements." Ling Hong pointed at Yuan Zhou and said.

"He's inordinately proud of his ability. But sooner or later, he's going to be done with it." Gao Xin said affirmatively.

"No, he won't. He really has excellent craftsmanship." Ling Hong gnashed his teeth when he said that.

"Let's stop talking about that. They recommended a place to me. Let's go together." Gao Xin suddenly thought of his friend's recommendation. Then, he said to Ling Hong.

"Ok. This is to apologize for failing to keep an appointment." Ling Hong said helplessly.

Ling Hong and Gao Xin lived close to each other. They had been good friends ever since they were children. However, Ling Hong disappeared every time Gao Xin invited him to meals together recently. Therefore, Ling Hong brought Gao Xin here and treated him to breakfast as an apology.

Gao Xin was different from Ling Hong. He really really really deserved the name of "a profligate son of the rich".

In his own words, his parents had already made such a fortune. If he still made money like his parents, who would spend their money? Therefore, his purpose was just to spend lavishly.

"I thought you were dating girls, but never thought you were out for eating." Gao Xin said sneeringly.

"I'll come again for lunch at noon." Ling Hong totally didn't mind Gao Xin's contempt and still said deservedly.

"Tsk. Let's talk about it later." Thinking of the fragrant, pungent, and smooth texture of the beef in his mouth, Gao Xin gulped down the saliva without a trace and said indifferently.

"Where are you going?" After he drove the car out of the side street, Ling Hong asked.

"A club, one for mixed martial arts." Speaking of that, Gao Xin became very excited.

"Are you serious? You only know about buying this and buying that. Are you thinking of going there to train?" Ling Hong said,

without even turning his head.

"I have a plan." When it came to this subject, Gao Xin said in a quite serious manner.

"You changed?" Ling Hong knitted his brows.

"No. I have been there watching twice and it feels good that they patted on each other's shoulder after the fighting." Gao Xin thought for a while and said.

"Huh?" Ling Hong indicated that he didn't quite follow him.

Men are born to like cars, guns and fierce boxing as well as wrestling.

Because all those stand for the beauty of strength. But what is it like with the feeling of patting the shoulder?

## Chapter 413: Treating

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While Ling Hong was driving and getting annoyed at his end, Yuan Zhou wasn't actually thinking of that. He was dealing with Jiang Changxi.

Or rather, Jiang Changxi made him struggle to cope with her.

Jiang Changxi, who had been absent for a long time, didn't leave immediately after she finished the breakfast. She was dressed in a white shirt with two buttons undone. Besides that, she was wearing a gray short-tassel jacket outside and black skinny pants. On the whole, she looked refreshing and experienced. As she was leaning against the table, she also carried a little sexual attraction. However, Yuan Zhou didn't have that luck to enjoy.

"Boss Yuan, it's not a good habit to break your promise with me." The voice of Jiang Changxi was leisurely and languorous. Of course, it would have been better if there wasn't the purely teasing look in her eyes.

"No, I didn't. The first time I invited you, you said you would consider it carefully." Yuan Zhou straightened himself up and then said calmly.

"For the second time, you were out on a business trip." Yuan Zhou continued saying.

"Today is the third time and you just came back." Yuan Zhou stared blankly at Jiang Changxi and said earnestly.

"Don't pay attention to such trivia. Is it a fact that you owe me a meal?" Jiang Changxi reached out her white hand and waved them.

"Yes, it's true. Do you need me to treat you today?" Yuan Zhou nodded his head.

"Of course.... not." Jiang Changxi liked taking long breaths and consequently teased Yuan Zhou again.

"Then business hours have come to an end." Yuan Zhou gestured at the time.

"I just want to accompany you to chat a while in case you feel bored alone." Jiang Changxi shrugged and said casually.

"Haw-haw-haw." Having watched the interesting scene, Wu Hai laughed undisguisedly.

The reason Jiang Changxi flirted with Yuan Zhou lightly like that was because she was their hidden agenda as it was really difficult to find a slow person like Yuan Zhou.

"I heard from Zheng Jiawei that you boiled Ink Eel recently to eat." Yuan Zhou said with a bland tone, like he wasn't taking revenge on him.

"Wait. What is Ink Eel?" Jiang Changxi revealed a look of interest.

"The boiled eel blended with blue ink." Yuan Zhou explained considerately.

"Wu Hai! Why did you cook the dark cuisine again?" Apparently, Jiang Changxi also knew that. On hearing that, she just felt speechless instead of being surprised.

"Not really. That bowl of eel was just like the dark sky glistening slightly with blue color. And the finely divided small pieces of flesh were nevertheless like the countless stars." Wu Hai gasped in admiration while stroking his small mustaches. Obviously, he enjoyed that work of his and was quite proud.

"Was it edible?" Yuan Zhou came to the point.

"Hahahaha." It was Jiang Changxi who was covering her own mouth and laughing loudly.

Yuan Zhou could promise that he really didn't laugh, at least not on the surface. Instead, he said solemnly with his face tightly taut, "Don't waste the ingredients."

"That is art." Wu Hai retorted, being reluctant to admit defeat.

"Yes. But still, it can't be eaten." Yuan Zhou said indifferently.

"Ok, you win. I'm leaving." Wu Hai turned around and left angrily with an expression of "You ordinary people don't know how to appreciate it".

"Little Hai Hai, see you later." Jiang Changxi waved her hands.

"I'm going to close the door and go buy radishes." Yuan Zhou said that.

"Alright. Remember the treat." Upon seeing Yuan Zhou's earnest expression, Jiang Changxi also knew Yuan Zhou's habit of sculpting and thus said approvingly.

"You are always welcomed." Yuan Zhou nodded his head.

"Boss Yuan, you look so lovable with that expression." Jiang Changxi always couldn't help teasing him when she saw Yuan Zhou's prim manner.

"It is actually called handsome." Yuan Zhou frowned and corrected her.

"Haha. Yes, it's handsome." Jiang Changxi walked out while covering her mouth and laughing.

Seeing everybody leave, Yuan Zhou let out a sigh of relief.

"Fortunately, I presented the facts and reason things out smartly and consequently got rid of the stigma of breaking promises with others." Yuan Zhou rubbed his own forehead and praise himself.

It was still early and was merely 9:30 a.m. At that time, some people appeared in the Bureau of Land Management.

One of them was dressed in a decent black suit; his upper pocket was decorated with a silk scarf, which looked a little fashionable; and his hair was combed meticulously. He was none other than Mr. Cheng, who had been humiliated by Yuan Zhou more than one month ago.



However, Mr. Cheng was extremely proud of his success today. He said with a smile, "Niu Li, is everything prepared?"

"General Manager Cheng, all information is here, all complete." Niu Li was still as serious and earnest as always, with some documents in her hand.

"General Manager Cheng, the business achievements submitted by Masterwork Nonsuch is rising steadily and besides, within the first ten among all branch restaurants. Why do this?" Another man at the side asked with puzzlement.

"Exactly because of that, we need that piece of land." General Manager Cheng said affirmatively.

"Assistant Deng, please look at their daily turnover." Niu Li handed him a document.

"Ok." Assistant Deng opened the document and leafed through it quickly.

"The sales in these three days seem to be quite high." Since Assistant Deng could work as the assistant to the General Manager, he naturally had excellent convincing capabilities. At least, he read the documents very quickly.

"Yes. During the three days, that small restaurant wasn't open. Even the turnover in the following few days was higher than that of normal times." Niu Li nodded her head affirmatively.

"Ok. So let's get inside, General Manager Cheng." Assistant Deng got relieved and walked into the Bureau of Land Management quite confidently.

"Um." General Manager Cheng nodded. After that, the several people entered the door in quick steps.

"Hello. I made an appointment with Director-general Zhang." It was General Manager Cheng who said that.

"Ok. Please wait a moment." The female receptionist nodded her

head and then went to confirm the schedule before she took them inside.

After a sound of "Zhi Ya", the wooden door was opened. Then, the receptionist went out.

As soon as the door was opened, the middle-aged man seated behind the office table stood up and said smilingly.

"Haha. Manager Cheng, what brought you here?" Director-general Zhang was actually a deputy. He didn't really have much power, but was just in charge of the area of Taoxi Road.

As the saying goes, it's better to find the right person than the big boss. Therefore, General Manager Cheng directly came here.

The several people entered the office one after another.

"I need your help." General Manager Cheng's attitude was enthusiastic, but not of flattery.

After all, the market value of his company was fairly high.

"Now that you came to me, you definitely must have taken a fancy to some place." Director-general Zhang was a middle-aged man with thick hair. He was thin, but was quite spirited.

"You are right. Director-general Zhang knows me so much. Let me tell you now." General Manager Cheng signaled Niu Li standing behind him to hand the documents to him and to Assistant Deng standing at the other side to hand him the quotation.

"Huh. You are well prepared." Director-general Zhang received them smilingly.

"I definitely have to prepare well before I come to see you. I don't want to be kicked out." General Manager Cheng answered fluently.

Speaking of which, the two people indeed knew each other and had come into contact before. General Manager Cheng knew the rules of Director-general Zhang. He didn't accept gifts, but only approved the applications under the condition that it was good for

the place and could improve urban constructions.

Last time, general Manager Cheng witnessed clearly a person who came here to send gifts was sent away.

He was far from being commented as great. However, Director-general Zhang was now a deputy and besides, he was no more than 45 years old, still young.

"No. 14 of Taoxi Road? You want to take that land?" Director-general Zhang flipped through the documents and asked for confirmation.

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## Chapter 414: Forced To Posture Again

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"Yes. That place is located in the development zone of the old town. Right now, there are only such commercial buildings such as CBD. We are prepared to build a large integrated catering restaurant." General Manager Cheng said with full confidence.

"Good idea. It not only provides jobs, but also attracts more people." Director-general Zhang nodded approvingly.

"Exactly. There's only a small food street currently, but none of the restaurants can decisively attract more people. If we can get that land, there will be one." General Manager Cheng pointed at the piece of land where Yuan Zhou's restaurant lay and said.

"There are only 8 stores in all in that land. It's still a little small, but likewise not bad." Director-general Zhang looked at the layout plan of General Manager Cheng carefully.

"Because my company has obtained four stores through purchasing them previously." General Manager Cheng smiled and pointed at the current position where his restaurant Masterwork Nonsuch lay.

"I see. Then, it's big enough." Director-general Zhang nodded his head. The approval seemed to be almost done.

"Yes. So I will have to please bother you to approve my request, Director-general Zhang." Seeing his purpose about to be realized, General Manager just sat there still and remained calm.

"For me, there's no problem. But I still have to check if there are any residential buildings there." Director-general Zhang was fairly serious and careful when it came to work.

"Don't worry. It's all commercial land." With a gleam of certainty to get it in his eyes, General Manager Cheng said peacefully on the surface.

"I know. It's just that the position of No. 14 of Taoxi Road seems a

little familiar." Director-general Zhang nodded first and then muttered to himself in a low voice.

He found the documents including the 3D map about Taoxi Road on the computer and then started to carefully check the several stores requested by General Manager Cheng.

"There's surprisingly a closed store. It seems that the place really does not have many visitors." Director-general Zhang shook his head and said.

"Yes. That's why we want to build our restaurant there." General Manager Cheng said confidently.

"Haha. Ok, I see." Director-general Zhang nodded.

He picked up the fixed phone and started to make a phone call. Naturally, he needed to ask the tax bureau for the detailed information of stores, as they knew about the taxes better than others.

If he approved the request without a thorough investigation now and a problem popped up later, he would be in big trouble.

On the contrary, General Manager Cheng got relieved when he saw Director-general Zhang starting to call somebody.

"It's finally confirmed." General Manager Cheng murmured in a low voice.

Although this Director-general Zhang was old-fashioned and inflexible when it came to work and wouldn't approve his request directly, no one could ever stop Yuan Zhou's restaurant from vanishing after he investigated clearly.

General Manager Cheng had already investigated Yuan Zhou. He didn't have a strong background nor did he know anybody who had the capability to affect this matter.

"Division Chief Lin, how are you doing recently?" Once the phone was put through, Director-general Zhang uttered and greeted.

"Hi, Director-general Zhang. Are you calling to ask about information again?" Habitually, Division Chief Lin revealed a genial smile on his face.

"Yeah. How's the situation concerning the Taoxi Road area?" Director-general Zhang asked frankly.

"You should find an institute like the Americans CIA in your bureau. Then you can get whatever you want to know." Division Chief Lin joked with him smilingly.

After that, he covered the phone and signaled his assistant to fetch documents about Taoxi Road for him.

"That's really a good idea. Why don't you apply for that and see if you can succeed? If you do, I won't need you to be my spy anymore." Director-general Zhang also started to joke with him.

"That's your own business, so it's better for you to do it yourself." Division Chief Lin took the phone and continued to joke.

"I don't have that ability. So you have to continue to be my spy." Director-general Zhang laughed and said.

"I know, I know. You old fellow always pushing me to work for you." Division Chief Li said angrily. However, he didn't slow down his actions and continued to check the records.

Judging from their conversations, one could tell Division Chief Lin and Director-general Zhang were quite acquainted with each other. Actually, they had been classmates in the university, therefore they could joke around like that.

"Tell me something about the places from No. 10 to No. 14 of Taoxi Road." Director-general Zhang uttered and urged him.

"I'm checking. Wait, which place did you say?" Division Chief Lin was originally searching for the place according to the street number when he heard the familiar place. Then he asked with puzzlement.

"No. 10 to 14 of Taoxi Road." Without thinking more, Director-general Zhang repeated again.

"No. 14 of Taoxi Road? No, you can't move that place." Division Chief Lin instantly became excited.

"What? Is that place your son?" Director-general Zhang was surprised with the excited tone of Division Chief Lin.

"It's more intimate than my son. Do not ever think of moving it." Division Chief Lin said in a resolute tone.

"What? Is there really an inside story?" Only then did Director-general Zhang start to knit his brows.

"Are you asking me about that because somebody wants to purchase that land? They can take wherever they like except that area." Division Chief Lin picked up the phone and said in a serious tone.

"Even if you approve it, I will try my best to stop it." Division Chief Lin thought for a while and added.

"I'm asking you about that. It's of no use if you can only show your resolution but don't come to the point." Director-general Zhang said speechlessly.

"General Manager Cheng, see?" Niu Li anxiously signaled General Manager Cheng to look at the changing expressions of Director-general Zhang.

"No problem." General Manager Cheng nodded positively.

"Ok." Niu Li stood back securely and meanwhile became happy inwardly.

"I'm so sorry, Boss Yuan. It's you who won't cooperate with us. You can't blame us." Thinking of Yuan Zhou's astonished expression when his restaurant was purchased, Niu Li couldn't help saying inwardly.

"Leaving others aside, the taxes paid by the stores No. 13 and 14 of

Taoxi Road are within the first three positions of our municipality. Do you think we can approve the request?" Division Chief Lin threw out a heavy bomb.

"Really?" Director-general Zhang became astounded and couldn't believe that.

Although the stores of the municipality didn't include companies, the amount of the first three positions were quite terrifying already.

Let alone they were only two tiny stores.

"I'm telling you the truth." Division Chief Lin said positively.

"That place is no more than 100 square meters. What business is it? Gambling?" Director-general Zhang looked carefully at the two places and then brought out his judgement.

"Humph. That's because you don't know the restaurant operated by Little Yuan. If not because of business hours being too short, he will easily pay the most taxes and get the first position." Speaking of the business hours of Yuan Zhou's restaurant, Division Chief Lin also gnashed his teeth.

Occasionally, he also went there with Vice Division Chief Li for meals.

However, that didn't mean they could be able to eat there every time they went there.

"Do you mean it's also an eatery, the kind that serves delicious food?" Director-general Zhang sank into deep thought in silence for a while and then asked.

"Correct." Division Chief Li nodded cleanly.

"How much taxes can they pay every month? You tell me so that I refuse them." Director-general Zhang said under his breath. This time, General Manager Cheng and his people didn't hear him. After all, it was impolite to stare at others talking when on the



phone.

"As you know, the higher the turnover is, the more the taxes are. So..." If it wasn't because he had no beard, Division Chief Lin would have stroked his beard blissfully.

"Hiss, got it." After Director-general Zhang heard that, he couldn't help hissing and then nodded his head.

Hearing Director-general Zhang hanging up the phone with a sound of "Pa", General Manager Cheng and his people turned their heads and looked at him with certainty.

"I'm sorry. I can't approve you getting the land." As soon as Director-general Zhang spoke, he refused them.

"Could you please tell me why? I think we are quite qualified and can bring huge business and glory to Taoxi Road." Once General Manager Cheng heard the refusal, he couldn't believe it at the beginning. Only then did he ask calmly.

"I'm speaking seriously. Why don't you look at this place? The Fuqing Road also meets your requirements and comparatively, it's more prosperous." Director-general Zhang took out another document and said.

"Based on our integrated business planning, we need that place at Taoxi Road." General Manager Cheng shook his head.

"I really can't approve it. I don't have the authority nor do the others have it." Director-general Zhang took the documents back and said that.

"Can you tell me the reason?" General Manager Cheng kept silent for a little while and uttered to ask.

"The stores No. 13 and 14 of Taoxi Road pay very high taxes. It's a store that has substantial value." Director-general Zhang said directly, not intending to conceal anything.

"So it's that reason, right? We can also do that. Director-general

Zhang, you also know the power of my company." On hearing that reason, General Manager Cheng got relieved and slightly leaned backwards against the chair.

"The taxes that they pay every month almost reaches 10 million. Can you?"

# Chapter 415: Shall We Eat Together?

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In regard to General Manager Cheng's words, Director-general Zhang didn't give any comment. He just brought out the total amount of taxes paid by Yuan Zhou emotionlessly.

"Pa"

General Manager Cheng acted as if he had heard a sound of face-slapping. How painful it was!

Are you kidding me? What a joke it was that such a small restaurant could pay so much in taxes!

General Manager Cheng revealed an expression of "You must be kidding". If not it was told by Director-general Zhang, he almost wanted to give a slap straight to his face.

"I'm sorry. Do you mean that small restaurant pays taxes by 10 million RMB every month?" There was full of disbelief in General Manager Cheng's tone. Besides that, he appeared quite astounded.

"Not yet, but very close." Director-general Zhang answered honestly.

"I don't think it is possible. There must be something wrong with the address." General Manager Cheng took a deep breath and said with a euphemistical tone.

"Director-general Zhang, a total of 415 stores paid taxes of 3 million each last year." Assistant Deng took out a document and said timely.

"Well, this number is reported by Division Chief Lin himself." Director-general Zhang answered calmly.

"I see. Sorry to bother you." General Manager Cheng tried his best to refrain himself from roaring.

"That's alright. Goodbye." Director-general Zhang nodded his head.

"Ta Ta Ta", the three people walked out of the door quickly.

General Manager Cheng didn't stop until they walked out of the bureau for a quite some distance.

"Didn't you say that guy doesn't have any background?" General Manager Cheng totally didn't believe that Yuan Zhou could pay taxes of 10 million.

"According to our investigations, no." Assistant Deng said calmly.

"That is right." Niu Li also nodded and echoed at the side.

"Then how is it possible that Director-general Zhang lied to us?" General Manager Cheng asked in puzzlement.

"I noticed the expression of Director-general Zhang just now and he didn't seem to be telling lies. Besides, it's possible for him to pay 10 million if that guy doesn't pay small business taxes, according to my careful calculations." It was another document that Assistant Deng took out this time.

"How is it possible? A restaurant that covers even less than 100 square meters pays taxes on the basis of turnover?" Regardless of the documents, General Manager Cheng was reluctant to accept that fact.

"There's no other explanation except this one." Assistant Deng said positively.

Niu Li was so surprised that she still carried an expression of disbelief on her face.

"Is he out of his mind? How do we play with him if he plays like that?" General Manager Cheng couldn't help scolding. The taxes were really paid by Yuan Zhou as if he was playing a game.

This was no different from being "made invincible". It simply left him no way out.

"Where are we going, General Manager Cheng?" Assistant Deng folded the documents and asked.

"Yeah. What shall we do, General Manager Cheng?" Niu Li couldn't help asking.

They had originally prepared to hold a celebration for the upcoming victory, but never expected that Yuan Zhou would do things in such an unconventional way as to not pay taxes based on the small business tax.

It was really unscientific. This move not only appeased the tax bureau and left them a good impression, but also scored a lucky hit and made General Manager Cheng unable to purchase his restaurant.

Without any difficulty, he solved some invisible crisis.

After all, a large taxpayer and taxpaying model deserved to be protected to some extent.

"What else can we do? Let's go back first and just wait for other opportunities." General Manager Cheng rolled his eyes and said angrily.

"I'm going to get the car. Please wait a moment, General Manager Cheng." Assistant Deng immediately took out the key and said.

"Ok." General Manager Cheng looked at the car in the distance without turning a hair and said calmly.

They were so irritated just now that they passed the place where they had parked the car. Now Assistant Deng had to go back and get it.

After trying to settle this matter, it wasn't early anymore. It was 11 in the morning and Yuan Zhou was preparing his own lunch.

Of course, he had no idea of what happened at all. However, he knew the significance of paying such a large amount of taxes and hence didn't worry about that.

"Let me just cook a vegetable dish and eat some beef at noon." Yuan Zhou looked at the ingredients full of the kitchen and

muttered to himself.

"Hua La" "Zi La". Along with the melodious symphony, Yuan Zhou prepared a meat dish, a vegetable dish and a soup as well as a bowl of plain cooked rice for himself very soon.

"Well, my craftsmanship improved again." Yuan Zhou smelled the fragrance of the food and said proudly.

"I'm starting now." Yuan Zhou carried the bowl and directly started to eat.

He had just eaten a few mouthfuls when there suddenly came a sound from outside.

Moreover, it was the melodious sound of Erhu.

At first, Yuan Zhou didn't feel anything special. Only after a long while when the tune of the Erhu was played clearer and more melodious could Yuan Zhou not help saying something.

"Where is the tune of the Erhu coming from?" Yuan Zhou was puzzled.

"Wu Wu Wu...", the beautiful tune of the Erhu was blowing in the wind. Though Yuan Zhou couldn't understand the meaning contained nor could he recognize which tune it was, he was attracted to it instinctively. While carrying the bowl, he was absorbed in that enjoyment.

When the tune came to an end more than ten minutes later, Yuan Zhou found that he hadn't even changed his position.

"That really is an awesome skill!" Yuan Zhou set the bowl and chopsticks down and couldn't help sighing with emotion.

"Pa", Yuan Zhou followed the source of the sound and opened the back door in accordance with his own thoughts.

There was only an alley outside the back door of Yuan Zhou's restaurant. The ground paved by the blue flagstones were covered with the mosses, which looked both ancient and dilapidated.

Exactly at the back door of Yuan Zhou's pub, there was a person standing there.

A person, who was dressed in a grey business suit and looked clean and neat, was putting the Erhu away meticulously.

"Xi Xi Suo Suo". After quite a while when the person finished, Yuan Zhou then uttered.

"Excuse me. Was that you who played the Erhu just now?" There was still a serious expression on Yuan Zhou's face.

"Yes, sir." Only then did the person turn around and answer.

The man's face was white and clean, but his brows were tight knitted with some wrinkles; his fingers were slender and beautiful; when he stood up, his back was kept perfectly straight. He was obviously an unyielding person. However, his clothes were so old that the original pure black pants had become slightly grey due to too much washing.

All of this was noticed by Yuan Zhou.

"You have excellent skill." Yuan Zhou said with all his heart.

"Thank you for your compliment." The man nodded and thanked him.

"You are welcome. I was lucky enough to hear the tune just now. Could you please eat with me? This meal is served as my return gift. After all, I'm no more than a chef." Yuan Zhou said a long sentence this time, but very slowly.

"Ok." The man looked at Yuan Zhou up and down and then nodded his head and agreed.

"May I bother you to have a seat? I'm going to cook two more dishes." Hearing the person agree, Yuan Zhou revealed a faint smile.

"It's me who is bothering you." The man held the case carefully and followed Yuan Zhou into his restaurant.

"Let's go to eat over there." Yuan Zhou pointed at the only table in the restaurant and said politely.

"Thank you." The man thanked Yuan Zhou softly.

"I'm going to cook." Seeing the person sit down, Yuan Zhou said that.

For a while, there was only the sound of cooking in the restaurant. The middle-aged man stroked the case silently as if it were of great value.

Yuan Zhou cooked very quickly. In no more than 5 minutes, he had prepared two main cuisines well.

A serving of Dongpo Pig Knuckle and a Jinling Grass were carried up onto the table.

"May I ask where you are working?" While they were eating, Yuan Zhou suddenly asked randomly.

The reason why Yuan Zhou treated him to a meal was that he could tell the man wanted to eat something and besides, he had been hungry for quite a while.

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# Chapter 416: Eating and Art

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Yuan Zhou wasn't really trying to invade his privacy by asking that. He was just puzzled why this middle-aged man would end up in such a predicament since he had such skill.

It was the very first time that Yuan Zhou had seen this kind of middle-aged person. His clothes were plain and old while his gaze was clean and experienced. He simply carried a look of "I have a story" on his face.

That made Yuan Zhou almost bring out the word like "I have liquor."

"I'm new here and haven't found an appropriate job." The middle-aged man didn't really eat elegantly, but ate ordinarily instead. Hearing the question, he said straightforwardly.

"You can look for one carefully. There are many opportunities in this place." Yuan Zhou said kindly.

"Um." The middle-aged man gulped down the meal in his mouth and then nodded his head.

Following that was the sound of the two people picking and chewing the dishes continuously. The middle-aged man ate swiftly.

"Your craftsmanship is really great! Thanks." Only after he finished eating the plain cooked rice did he set down the bowl.

"Thank you for your compliments." Yuan Zhou nodded his head.

"I'm telling the truth." the middle-aged man said earnestly.

Neither of them were talkative, therefore the restaurant was lost in silence.

It was the middle-aged man that broke the silence first in the end.

"My name is Du Sheng. May I know your name?" The middle-

aged man asked.

"My name is Yuan Zhou, the chef of this restaurant." Yuan Zhou answered courteously.

"Since we have all known each other's name, we are friends now." The middle-aged man said that.

"Of course." Yuan Zhou nodded his head.

"In order to thank you for your treating, I'd like to play the Erhu, again." While the middle-aged man was saying that, he wasn't really excessively proud of his ability and showed off. He just said it matter-of-factly.

He spoke as if it were very common to play the Erhu to express his thanks to Yuan Zhou. He didn't specifically explained that he had no money or anything else to thank him, merely appearing indifferently.

"Thank you so much, Du Sheng." Yuan Zhou got pleasantly surprised at first and immediately nodded his head and agreed.

"The tune is 'Two Springs Reflect the Moon.'" The middle-aged man reported the name of the tune first before he started to play.

Afterwards, the beautiful melody of Two Springs Reflect the Moon passed from the Erhu that had been properly maintained.

Yuan Zhou didn't actually know about the melody. However, the middle-aged man just played so well. Even the unknown tune played just caused Yuan Zhou to be immersed in that beautiful melody, let alone this more popular one.

The two people sat separately. Yuan Zhou got seated in the chef's chair of the kitchen and listened to the tune earnestly and blissfully while the middle-aged man sat on a chair in the main hall and played the Erhu earnestly, tilting his head.

Actually, Yuan Zhou wasn't guessing wrong at first. Du Sheng indeed hadn't eaten anything for two days except for some snacks.

Without a job and without money with him, he had only got an Erhu that worth some money.

Theoretically, the middle-aged man could at least dress warmly and eat his fill if he sold his skill somewhere since he had that ability.

However, Du Sheng didn't do that as imagined. What's worse, he walked to such a quiet alley at the back door of Yuan Zhou's restaurant and played the Erhu in this place that nobody passed. It was more like he played for himself.

A tune of Two Springs Reflect the Moon could be finished in no more than a few minutes, therefore Du Sheng finished playing very soon.

"Xi Xi Suo Suo", he cleared away the case quickly and prepared to leave.

"Sorry to bother you, Yuan Zhou. I'm leaving now." Du Sheng walked to the door and then thanked him.

Of course, he went out from the front door of Yuan Zhou's restaurant this time.

"I should thank you. Be careful." Yuan Zhou sent him to the door courteously.

As a chef, Yuan Zhou could tell that Du Sheng was very hungry and also he didn't have money with him. Actually, Yuan Zhou was a little curious about that.

"If he sells his playing techniques, he definitely can make a lot of money. After all, his techniques of playing Erhu are so good that even I, this layman, could recognize it." Yuan Zhou muttered to himself.

No one really knew why Du Sheng didn't make a living as a performer when he can't afford the meals. Yuan Zhou didn't know that, nor did others. He might not want to make money with his ability of playing Erhu or maybe he just didn't want to sell his

techniques. Who knows!

There were always some craftsmen who had their own persistence, which made them not know where their next meal would come. However, such kind of persistence wasn't understandable by Yuan Zhou.

"Forget it. It's time to prepare the lunch." Yuan Zhou managed to get rid of various speculations in his mind and started to prepare the lunch earnestly.

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Time passed soon. When there was half an hour left before the lunch time, the master that took Yuan Zhou as his teacher came, quite a long time after the contest.

Of course, he had specially explain why he didn't come immediately. It was because he had intended to come over here to learn only after he resigned.

"Great Master Yuan, good afternoon. This is the tea I prepared for you with the shoot apices of Keemun. The temperature is just perfect for drinking immediately." Once Master Cheng came over, he handed a ceramic pot respectfully.

"You don't need to do this. Just stand there and stay out of the way." Yuan Zhou frowned, but didn't receive the teapot.

"I'm grateful that you can give me this opportunity to stay with and learn from you." Master Cheng said with a solemn look.

With the respectful manner, Master Cheng was actually performing the disciple ceremony.

"I won't take disciples now, so you are not my disciple. Just watch by yourself." Yuan Zhou said frankly and clearly and also cleanly.

"No problem. Now that Great Master Yuan doesn't like it, I won't do that next time." Master Cheng appeared rather serious. He

cleared away the teapot and just stood obediently at the segestes wall.

Standing at this position, he could take in the complete picture of the kitchen and meanwhile, didn't affect Zhou Jia's work.

"Did you resign?" Yuan Zhou suddenly raised his head and asked.

"Yes. I will stay here and won't leave until I feel it's good for me. I hope I won't disturb you, Great Master Yuan." Master Cheng nodded his head.

"No, it's ok. Just come on time. If you want to eat, go line up." Yuan Zhou shook his head and said that.

"Thank you, Great Master Yuan." Master Cheng said courteously and respectfully.

"You don't need to call me like that. Just call me Yuan Zhou." When Yuan Zhou heard the appellation again, he finally couldn't help saying that.

"Then I'm going to call you Boss Yuan." Although Master Cheng was prideful and impatient, he was likewise stubborn.

Even if Yuan Zhou was reluctant to take disciples, letting him to watch was also a kind of learning. It was slightly disrespectful to call his name directly, thus he had to compromise and call him like that.

"Ok. I'm now preparing the ingredients required for lunch." After a nod, Yuan Zhou continued his work.

Hearing that, Master Cheng immediately stared at Yuan Zhou process the ingredients without blinking.

It was during that contest of precious ingredients last time that he saw Yuan Zhou do the same work. At that time, however, he wasn't so close to Yuan Zhou.

The place where the contest was held wasn't like Yuan Zhou's restaurant which had facilities to stop any taste from spreading out

and was free from any dust.

The restaurant was small, so Master Cheng saw Yuan Zhou process the ingredients so close for the very first time.

"Everybody, business hours commence now. The first ten customers, please come on in and take seats." The clear and melodious voice of Zhou Jia passed from the door.

While they were talking seriously just now, Zhou Jia had already arrived and prepared everything.

"Boss, a serving of Phoenix Tai Prawns plus Egg Fried Rice." Zhou Jia's voice of reporting orders passed to him soon.

"Ok." Yuan Zhou nodded his head and then he started to scoop the prawns.

"Hua La", Yuan Zhou took the small fishing net and scooped up the exact number of prawns.

"He's going to process the prawns now." As a master, Master Cheng actually specialized in Canton Cuisines. However, he was also clear about the cooking method of Phoenix Tail Prawns.

Normally, now was the time to wash the prawns one by one, take the veins out and then put them into the oil to fry. Nevertheless, Yuan Zhou's method of cooking was beyond his understanding.

"No wonder you are Great Master Yuan. You even wash prawns differently from others." While concentrating his attention on the process, Master Cheng couldn't help saying that.

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# Chapter 417: Grand Blind Date Gathering

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"Of course." While passing by, Zhou Jia heard that and couldn't help saying proudly.

"Grand Master Yuan is really awesome! He surprisingly doesn't touch the flesh of the prawns at all, not to mention his miraculous knife skills." Master Cheng gasped in admiration.

"Certainly. If not, why do so many people come here to eat?" Hearing Master Cheng praise Yuan Zhou so much, Zhou Jia nodded her head with a prouder manner.

"The dishes are worth the trip. Is there anything else that Boss Yuan is good at?" Master Cheng didn't move his sight away from Yuan Zhou at all. Even when Yuan Zhou was turning around, he kept staring at the actions made by Yuan Zhou's elbows.

"Of course. My boss is also great in sculpting. The sculptures are so vivid they seem alive." After Zhou Jia greeted some other customers, she turned her head and said.

"I know about that. I have seen it once. He's really awesome." Master Cheng said continuously.

"Everything my boss cooks is delicious and very popular." Speaking of her boss Yuan Zhou, Zhou Jia always appeared proud.

"Of course, that is definitely for sure." Master Cheng revealed an approving expression.

Throughout the entire lunchtime, the two of them discussed things about Yuan Zhou's culinary skills occasionally.

But actually, they praised more than discussed. Yuan Zhou was originally very happy when he heard that at first. After a little while, however, he became embarrassed.

Though Yuan Zhou appeared embarrassed on the surface, he gloated and said secretly, "I want more. More, please. I can endure

much more praise."

"Hooo...". When the lunch time ended and sending off all customers and Zhou Jia, Yuan Zhou finally got some time to sit down.

Not long after that, there came a clear and mild male voice from outside. Without looking, Yuan Zhou recognized it was Su Mu as only he could make that sound.

"Boss Yuan..." The voice of Su Mu lingered ceaselessly in the room.

"What's the matter?" Having resumed his solemn expression, Yuan Zhou stood up and asked Su Mu while looking at him walk into the restaurant quickly.

"My goodness! Do you know how miserable I am?" Su Mu flopped down on the chair across Yuan Zhou and sighed.

"I've no idea." Yuan Zhou shook his head quite earnestly and meanwhile kneaded his ears without a trace. The voice of this guy was so high that he could be qualified to sing opera.

"Sigh." Su Mu didn't say anything, but just let out a sigh.

"Where's Su Yuesheng?" Yuan Zhou didn't ask about him directly. Instead, he was asking where the young girl that always carried a cat had gone.

"She's studying." Su Mu answered faintly.

"I see." After a nod, Yuan Zhou sat down and asked no more.

"Why aren't you asking about me?" Su Mu supported his head and looked at Yuan Zhou.

"You'll tell me when you feel it is necessary." While Yuan Zhou was speaking, he put his phone down.

"Alright. I'm going on a blind date." Su Mu suddenly said that.

"That is good. I don't even have a girlfriend." Thinking of those



reserved girls, Yuan Zhou felt a little helpless.

"I don't bloody think so. I'm still so young, but my parents want to unite our families through my marriage." It was rare that Su Mu said dirty words.

"You can refuse." Yuan Zhou said straightforwardly.

"I can't." Su Mu shrugged.

"Why don't you ask Ling Hong? He has a lot of experience." Yuan Zhou suddenly remembered that Ling Hong had mentioned that he was set up for a blind date.

"Yeah, you are right." Su Mu patted on his own head and suddenly recalled this matter.

Then, he took out the phone and started to make a call.

"Hi, Ling Hong. I'm in Yuan Zhou's restaurant. Come over here quickly." Once the phone call was put through, Su Mu couldn't wait to say that.

"What's the matter?" Ling Hong asked with a frown.

"About the queuing committee." Su Mu said directly.

He would never tell him it was about his blind date.

"I'll be there in one hour." Ling Hong answered cleanly.

This committee had indeed been discussing something recently.

If they wanted others to obey their management, they naturally needed to give them some benefits. Others might not understand that, but Man Man, Jiang Changxi, Ling Hong and Yin Ya all understood the necessity.

Of course, there were also some who didn't understand. For example, Wu Hai.

"I don't care how you do with it. Just come to me if money needs to be donated." Wu Hai said generously.

"I'm all in favor of Boss Yuan." This was Tang Xi, the little fan of

Yuan Zhou.

"Whatever you do. I can take charge of the beauty parts." Su Mu raised his eyebrows and said earnestly.

The words simply made the other few people speechless. Moreover, they couldn't even retort.

Wu Hai was a well-known young artist and indeed didn't lack money. As for Tang Xi, she was 100% supportive as long as it was about Yuan Zhou. With regards to Su Mu, the several people all looked at him with one accord.

"Well, there's nothing wrong with his words." Looking at the exquisite and beautiful face of Su Mu, Jiang Changxi said affirmatively.

Therefore, the remaining several responsible people straightforwardly decided to build some common facilities to accommodate people to wait inside. Of course, there must be a toilet in the facility.

What a joke! Just because of the matter of toilet, Jiang Changxi, Ling Hong and Su Mu all bought their own place in the apartment building across Yuan Zhou's restaurant so that they could go to the toilet anytime.

That was probably the so-called "rich and capricious", which was unexpected even by Yuan Zhou.

"Queuing committee?" Yuan Zhou asked with puzzlement.

"Yes. It's in charge of the queuing matters. The tall, fat, thin three guys are also included." When Su Mu told a lie, it was even truer than the truth.

"I see. I heard that Ling Hong pretended to be poor and afterwards, they broke up." Yuan Zhou didn't go into this matter seriously, but started to talk about Ling Hong's blind date.

"Yeah, I heard about that too." Su Mu thought of Ling Hong's

word at that time for a while.

"Um. Something about hobbies." Yuan Zhou nodded his head.

"I will follow suit and see if it work." Su Mu revealed a troubled look.

In any case, he looked to be a poor noble. It was a little difficult for him to pretend to be poor.

"What if she's a pretty girl?" Yuan Zhou only gossiped once in a blue moon.

"So what? She wouldn't be as good-looking as me." Su Mu said affirmatively.

"...", Yuan Zhou finally experienced the feeling of being speechless similar to Wu Hai. Su Mu's word made great sense and he didn't even know what to answer.

"Isn't Wu Hai here?" Su Mu asked naturally, not realizing Yuan Zhou's embarrassment.

"No." Yuan Zhou shook his head.

"Why hasn't Ling Hong appeared?" Waiting was painful for Su Mu, even if Ling Hong had told him he needed one hour to get there.

"It's only been 15 minutes since you called just now." Yuan Zhou checked the time secretly and said.

"He's so slow." Su Mu lowered his head and sighed.

"You can play some games while waiting for him." Yuan Zhou suggested.

"What are you playing?" Su Mu found that Yuan Zhou had begun to stare at his phone attentively since the very start.

"A game." Yuan Zhou said concisely.

"Of course it's a game. I mean what game?" Su Mu asked curiously.

Su Mu did not just inquire curiously, he also bent forward to look at the screen of Yuan Zhou's phone.

On the screen, various colorful fruits were flying as if they were having a party.

"Cutting fruits?" Su Mu uttered in surprise before Yuan Zhou could answer him.

"Yes." Yuan Zhou nodded his head. Meanwhile, he passed another barrier swiftly and evaded the bomb perfectly.

"Boss Yuan, are you still playing this game? It's already outdated." Su Mu simply couldn't understand him.

"This game can help to train the speed of my hand movement. According to the research from Virginia, U.S.A, it can increase the flexibility of the human's nervous system by 7% if one played the game long term. Apart from that, it can also train the receptivity of human's eyes. Only those who don't know these things say this game is outdated." Yuan Zhou happened to pass a level. Then, he raised his head and said to Su Mu earnestly.

"Well, Boss Yuan, you are so devoted. You play a game not for fun, but to train the speed of your hand movement." Su Mu raised his eyebrows.

In the meantime, he had a deeper understanding of Yuan Zhou's devotion in the mind. As for the matter of why Yuan Zhou was still playing this game even after he passed the level, only Yuan Zhou himself knew that.

# Chapter 418: Focus of Attention

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"Ta Ta Ta". Along with the steady footsteps, Ling Hong walked into the main hall from outside.

"Hey, there you are." Su Mu turned his head and looked at Ling Hong smilingly.

"Don't look at me like that. I'm not a woman and won't be fooled by you." Dressed in a grey vest, white shirt and crease-free slacks, Ling Hong said directly when he heard Su Mu.

"Ling Hong, how can you be like that?" Su Mu revealed an incredulous expression.

"Stop please, ok? Let's go to find Wu Hai and talk later." Ling Hong looked at the expressionless Yuan Zhou and said that.

"Ok, ok." Su Mu agreed to the proposal.

"See you in the evening, Boss Yuan." Ling Hong waved his hand and then dragged Su Mu away.

"See you in the evening, Boss Yuan." Su Mu greeted Yuan Zhou, too.

"See you." Yuan Zhou stood up and nodded his head.

Not until when everyone left did Yuan Zhou sit down again. He found the CD about the etiquette of French dishes rewarded by the system and prepared to watch it.

"I'd rather watch the etiquette of French dishes today." Yuan Zhou muttered to himself.

According to old man Murphy, you will never be able to catch a taxi when you are almost late and urgently needed one. As a result, another casual visitor came over again just when Yuan Zhou wanted to watch the video and learn the etiquette in silence.

"Hey, Boss Yuan. For this interview, I hope for your cooperation this time. Of course, this is to notify you in advance. It will start in

about two hours." A young man dressed in a black vest said that as soon as he entered the restaurant.

"We are from the program division of 'Folk Talent'. I'm the scenarist of the program," said the man in a vest when he recalled that he hadn't mentioned the name of the specific program.

"So are two hours enough for you to prepare?" The man in the vest thought of the cold reception they encountered last time and then added.

"Both of them are wearing vests, but why is there so much difference?" Looking at the man's vest, Yuan Zhou thought of the grey one that Ling Hong was wearing and then uttered suddenly.

"Pardon?" The man in the vest was a little puzzled.

"Never mind. Anyway, there is no need for an interview." Yuan Zhou still refused him bluntly and indifferently without a change in his expression, gaze, or tone.

"What do you mean?" The man in the vest asked with an irritated expression.

"It's what it literally means." Yuan Zhou answered with the same serious and earnest expression as usual.

"I don't think you know that we are a municipal-level TV station and have a good audience rating. Anyone that has been interviewed by us all gets an increase in business." The man in a vest controlled his anger and said as peacefully as possible.

"I don't think you understand me. I'm telling you that I don't need it." Yuan Zhou disliked self-conceited people very much and thus refused him again.

"Are you sure?" This time, the voice of the man in the vest was a little louder.

"Yes, 100% sure." Yuan Zhou nodded his head expressionlessly.

"I think you just don't appreciate favors." The man in the vest

didn't really want to make it too embarrassing. He just felt bad inwardly and hence couldn't help muttering. The voice was so low that even Yuan Zhou didn't hear him with his sharp ears and eyes.

"I'm sorry. Did you forget your vocal cords at home?" Naturally, Yuan Zhou knew this person wasn't saying anything good. Therefore, he said with an indifferent tone.

"You... Since you are so reluctant, forget all about it." The man in the vest originally wanted to lose his temper but in the end, managed to control it.

"Be careful on the way back." Yuan Zhou was still as courteously as before.

"Ta Ta Ta". The man in the vest seemed to be venting his anger by taking extraordinarily heavy footsteps.

"How strange." Yuan Zhou wasn't actually angry, but was just puzzled.

After all, he depended on his own craftsmanship rather than advertising.

"Let me continue watching the CD." Yuan Zhou continued to play the CD.

At the other side, the man in the vest walked out of the side street and went back into the car.

That's right. This time, Presenter Lu received the order from the chief editor and then came over to interview Yuan Zhou.

"So, how is your communication with him, Scenarist Li?" At sight of the man in the vest getting on the car, Presenter Lu asked.

"Don't mention about him now. That person is still as eccentric as before. He was reluctant to be interviewed last time because we didn't communicate with him beforehand. This time, however, he is still like that even when I spoke nicely." The man in the vest, namely Scenarist Li, sighed as soon as he talked.

"Haha. Then let's go to the alternative restaurant. Have you communicated with that one?" Presenter Lu had originally been reluctant to interview Yuan Zhou, therefore he said indifferently.

"No problem. That Chen's Restaurant is very welcoming to us to go there. They have already prepared lunch. He's just waiting for us." Scenarist Li said smilingly this time.

"Good. Let's go. There are so many restaurants around. Does he really think only his restaurant deserves an interview?" Presenter Lu signaled the driver to move.

"Exactly. That Granny Liu's Restaurant also had great business because of our program last time. Just after that arrogant guy refused us earlier that day, we went to Granny Liu's Restaurant." Scenarist Li followed Presenter Lu's subject and said.

"Yes, that's the one. I heard it developed very well recently. When we have time later, we really need to go there and have a look at its development now." Presenter Lu revealed a complacent smile.

"Absolutely. They have eagerly expected us to go. In my opinion, that little boss just doesn't know how to appreciate favors. We are offering him the precious opportunities for free, but he surprisingly refuses us." Scenarist Li said with a proud and scornful tone.

"Haha. I can't agree more." Presenter Lu also nodded his head and agreed with him.

The chief editor arranged for them to interview Yuan Zhou this time. However, he was also very satisfied last time when they originally planned to interview him but had to interview another person.

Therefore, Presenter Lu specially hinted to Scenarist Li to communicate casually with Yuan Zhou just to obey the chief editor's request. Thinking of the frosty face of Yuan Zhou, he



didn't want to face him and bear the coldness.

The shooting of Chen's Restaurant went quite smoothly. Although they didn't finish the job on that day, Presenter Lu still told the instructor in the broadcasting department to get the film prepared so that he could give it to the chief editor.

6:50 p.m., outside chief editor's office, 3rd floor of Mingyang TV Station.

"Dong Dong Dong", Presenter Lu knocked on the wooden door.

"How's your work today? Is it going smoothly?" The chief editor was a seemingly amiable middle-aged man. His face was square and he was dressed in casual clothes that fit well. When he saw Presenter Lu, he raised his head and asked.

"It went quite smoothly. This is the film made today." Presenter Lu revealed a clean smile and then handed the film to the chief editor expertly.

"Good. I heard that person doesn't really say pleasant words." The chief editor had already known about Yuan Zhou's proud and aloof temperament. On hearing Presenter Lu saying so, he smiled and said happily.

"Well, it wasn't bad." Presenter Lu didn't realize that the chief editor was talking about Yuan Zhou and thus he was a little puzzled.

"You don't know that, but even the sharp-tongued Lee Yanyi says that he doesn't like talking with people." The chief editor said while preparing to play the film made today.

"Has Lee Yanyi also remarked Chen's Restaurant?" Only then did Presenter Lu realize something went wrong.

"Chen's Restaurant? What's that?" The chief editor revealed a puzzled expression.

"Chen's Soup Noodles Restaurant at Liushu Street. That's the

one." Presenter Lu brought out the address without thinking any bit.

"Didn't you go to Yuan Zhou's restaurant?" The chief editor was still puzzled.

"Well, Chief Editor. We were actually shooting Chen's Restaurant today, because Boss Yuan still rejected us." Presenter Lu suddenly remembered the moment when they decided to shoot Yuan Zhou's restaurant and said with an embarrassing look.

"He still rejected you? What's the problem?" Only then did the chief editor turn his head and looked at Presenter Lu solemnly.

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# Chapter 419: Yuan Zhou's Documentary

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"The first time we went to interview him, that Boss Yuan refused us. Even after Scenarist Li communicated with him, he still refused us." Being stared at by the chief editor, Presenter Lu felt slightly stressed, but he still brought out the reason clearly.

"Didn't you go communicate with him again? I told you to film Yuan Zhou's restaurant but you went to film Chen's Restaurant? You even edited the film already." When the chief editor said to the latter part, his anger changed to calmness, which made Presenter Lu feel even worse.

"It's mainly because Boss Yuan had a resolute attitude. As a result, we chose to use an alternative method." Presenter Lu said earnestly.

"A resolute attitude? So you can only eat with your mouth, but not speak anything, right? Where is Scenarist Li now?" The chief editor spoke as if he had tried his best to control his anger and asked.

"He's outside the door." Presenter Lu betrayed Scenarist Li frankly and honestly.

"I'm telling you today that Yuan Zhou's restaurant, alone, has greatly increased the GDP of this region. Furthermore, this single restaurant pays the most taxes among so many minor enterprises. You tell me if Chen's Restaurant can be so awesome." The chief editor brought out a bunch of word in one breath.

"No." Presenter Lu lowered his head and answered.

"Then what are you standing there for? I showed you the focus of attention, but you surprisingly went to interview a restaurant unknown to fame instead of going to Yuan Zhou's restaurant. Are you trying to overturn the heavens?" The last sentence was shouted out loudly by the chief editor.

Conveniently, he threw the film given to him just now right onto the ground in front of Presenter Lu.

"Go to find Scenarist Li and summon him immediately." After saying that, the chief editor sat down and no longer looked at Presenter Lu.

"Ok." Presenter Lu picked up the film and rushed out right away.

"A crowd of pigs. Leaving aside such a hot topic and messing around!!!" The sound of the chief editor scoldings was locked inside the office.

Presenter Lu was right. It must be Yuan Zhou himself.

"Scenarist Li , the chief editor is summoning you." Presenter Lu was muddled by the scolding. When he saw Scenarist Li, he said subconsciously.

"What's wrong? Isn't he satisfied with the film?" Seeing the upset of Presenter Lu who was usually sunny, Scenarist Li asked.

"No, he isn't." Presenter Lu nodded his head.

"I'll go have a look." After saying that, Scenarist Li turned around and entered the chief editor's office.

Just as expected, there came a roar from the chief editor inside.

Having heard the roar, Presenter Lu concluded it as, "If you don't even know how to communicate with people, what are you working here for?"

"That is indeed so." Presenter Lu fully agreed to that.

He had totally forgotten that this program didn't require the scenarist to communicate and arrange beforehand in most cases. Sometimes, they would even launch a surprise attack in order to increase the effects and fun.

Of course, they have never failed. Only when their prideful attitude encountered Yuan Zhou, who didn't accept them, did they start to fail.

For quite a while, Presenter Lu waited for Scenarist Li at a place not far away. When he came out of the office, Presenter Lu even felt he could vaguely see the saliva on the face of Scenarist Li. It appeared to be from the chief editor.

"Scenaria Li, shall we go to shoot Yuan Zhou's restaurant tomorrow?" Presenter Lu asked.

"Yes. Let's go to shoot that damn restaurant tomorrow." Scenarist Li said irritably.

"Take it easy. I have never thought such a small restaurant could be so awesome." While Scenarist Li was being scolded, Presenter Lu did some homework and found some things about Yuan Zhou's restaurant. At that time, he patted on the shoulder of Scenarist Li and comforted him.

"Exactly. I almost suspect that he put marijuana in his dishes. The chief editor said there are long lines of customers there all day long." Scenarist Li was severely scolded and thus he couldn't help venting his anger on Yuan Zhou's restaurant.

"Forget it. Let's just shoot it tomorrow. But what shall we do with this film?" Presenter Lu took the film and asked.

"The chief editor said it can be broadcast in next episode. In this episode, Yuan Zhou must appear." Speaking of Yuan Zhou's name, Scenarist Li gnashed his teeth.

Why was such a small restaurant so awesome?

It was totally unscientific!

Neither Scenarist Li nor Presenter Lu could understand that.

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Time passed soon. Early next morning, the staff of the TV station got everything ready and set out by car. Apart from Scenarist Li, Presenter Lu was also responsible for the communications this time. After all, the chief editor had given them a hard order.

When there were still about 50 meters away from Yuan Zhou's restaurant, the two of them started to discuss.

"Let's just be courteous when we get there. Just for once. We'll be alright after the shooting." Presenter Lu said first.

"I know. I will introduce the advantages of our program in detail this time. Back in the day, I was also a salesman." Scenarist Li said proudly.

"Ok. I will be responsible for the public relations shortly. We will only shoot once. If it's not good, you just edit the film after we go back. Don't bother too much." Presenter Lu turned his head and said to the photographer at the side.

"Got it." The photographer nodded his head.

"Ok. Let's go." Presenter Lu started to lead the several people towards Yuan Zhou's restaurant.

"Boss Yuan, we are the program division of "Folk Talent" of XX TV station. I'm the scenarist surnamed Li. Today we are here with the intention of filming the scene of your cooking." Scenarist Li went up and said courteously and loudly.

"Sorry. I think I refused you yesterday." Yuan Zhou was moving the chair at that time. Upon hearing that, he stood up and said.

"Perhaps, I didn't make myself understood. Let me tell you the advantages of our program now. Every restaurant that has been broadcast in our programme becomes popular without exception, including the last time when you refused us." Scenarist stood in front of Yuan Zhou and said confidently.

"Thank you, but I don't need it." Yuan Zhou answered. After that, he continued moving the chair.

"We will just film the scene where you cook. It's equivalent to a free publicity. This is quite a precious opportunity that others all long for..." Scenarist Li still prepared to keep talking when he was stopped by Presenter Lu.

"Enough. Let me talk to him." Presenter Lu had made it clear that Scenarist Li wasn't really willing to admit failure and just wanted to convince Yuan Zhou of the good effects of their program. However, weren't they here just to film?

"Alright." Originally, Scenarist Li was reluctant to say anything. Now that Presenter Lu wanted to do the work, he felt relieved. Then he took a step backward and stood there.

"Don't say anything now. I'll take charge of the remaining things." After saying that, Presenter Lu took a deep breath and comforted himself in his heart continuously, saying that he would do it only once. It wasn't difficult to pretend to be obedient, therefore he went up and uttered.

"Boss Yuan, we have come into contact with you twice. Last time, we indeed acted rudely and abruptly. This time, however, I'm notifying you beforehand. When you cook in the evening, we will just film the process briefly and definitely won't get in your way of cooking." Presenter Lu went up and started to reason with him.

He was, anyhow, a presenter and had some ability.

When the two of them were discussing how to deal with Yuan Zhou, he had started to sculpt.

In his opinion, he had refused them and they would definitely leave like how they did last time. After that, he would be free. His craftsmanship exercises were naturally more important.

Therefore, Yuan Zhou didn't say anything but just shook his head after Presenter Lu said all that.

"What about we film how you sculpt?" Looking at Yuan Zhou sculpting carefully, Presenter Lu was hit by the inspiration and thus said that.

This time, Yuan Zhou neither said anything nor refused them. Instead, he just sat there.

"Since you agree, we are starting now." Presenter Lu really didn't

know what to do. Seeing Yuan Zhou not refuse him, he directly waved his hand and let his people set up the equipment.

Fortunately, it wasn't like the studio and thus could photoshop the later stage after a simple shooting. All the staff got the equipment set up very soon. After a simple opening remark of Presenter Lu, they started the shooting.

During the shooting, Yuan Zhou straightened his back without turning a hair. Even if he was sitting on the chair, he appeared rather serious and earnest as well as extraordinarily charming.

The calm and collected Yuan Zhou still paid a lot of attention to his appearance.

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# Chapter 420: Jiang Changxi and Yin Ya

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"What we are looking at now is Yuan Zhou, the boss and chef of the Masterchef Restaurant, the most welcomed small restaurant recently." Presenter Lu introduced Yuan Zhou's identity with only one word.

Along with his introductions, the video lens likewise moved to Yuan Zhou.

Yuan Zhou was sitting upright on a chair with his head lowered and his eyes staring at his own hands. From this direction, people could only see half of his face. As he usually didn't go under the sun, his skin appeared a little white.

With his straight nose and slightly pursed mouth, he appeared a little solemn. Such a serious and earnest manner, on the contrary, reflected his charms.

While the video lens moved downwards, they could only see Yuan Zhou's hands moving slightly and a layer of silver light surrounding the radish in his left hand.

"Shua Shua Shua", the crystal skin and flesh of the radish piled up by Yuan Zhou's feet slowly.

During the process, Presenter Lu continued the introduction ceaselessly.

For example, "Chef Yuan won the Contest of Precious Ingredients last time and gained recognition from all the master cooks. Even the chairman of the China Chef's Alliance greatly praised his culinary skills."

Matched with the swift and graceful knife skills, the compliments were quite convincing.

At least, the audiences in front of the TV now believed so.

"Surprisingly, this episode is introducing a chef." A young man

who was staring at the TV looked straight at Yuan Zhou's hands.

"Wait. Is this guy using a kitchen knife to sculpt?" The young man suddenly grabbed his hair and said loudly in surprise.

"Wu Hong, be quiet. Don't you know what time it is now?" Along with a vigorous growl, a beautiful girl appeared in front of the young man.

"Aunt, come to watch this episode of 'Folk Talent'. This person is absolutely awesome!" The young man called Wu Hong cared nothing about it at all. He took the girl's hand conveniently and then said while pointing at the TV.

"Can you not always dream? Maybe he's just putting on a show." The girl looked very young, but the young man called her aunt. The girl also very naturally rebuked him with a tone of an elder.

"No, he isn't. Look, he's really very awesome, aunt." Wu Hong asked the girl to look at TV persistently.

At that time, the introduction was still going on, "This Chef Yuan has created unbelievable miracles within 8 months since his restaurant was opened. Numerous customers go to and fro in constant streams."

"He even uses a queuing machine to maintain the order. Moreover, tourists from other places all take pride in eating Chef Yuan's dishes. Of course, foreign customers aren't rare in Chef Yuan's restaurant, either." Presenter Lu appeared in the video smilingly and then the lens moved to Yuan Zhou again.

As always, Yuan Zhou was still sculpting.

"As far as I know from others, this Chef Yuan won't be distracted as long as he starts to sculpt. So he won't be able to receive greetings from you all."

"However, a serious man has the most charms, doesn't he? He looks awfully handsome now. I am almost fascinated by him." Presenter Lu said in a teasing tone.

"Aunt, do you agree with me? Let's go to Chengdu, shall we?" During the gap for advertisements, Wu Hong immediately turned his head and said to the girl.

The program of "Folk Talent" was specially made after the program division witnessed the great popularity of the program of "A Bite of China". Formerly, it was broadcast on the Chengdu TV Station at 10:00 p.m. every Thursday and had a good audience rating. As for the ranking, it was in around the middle position.

Of course, the timing of the broadcasted was severely ridiculed as it self-torturous to watch a program about delicious food at that time.

Every episode of the program had a name and the name for that day was very simple, Yuan Zhou's Documentary. When this episode was edited in the end, Presenter Lu and Scenarist Li both got relieved.

After all, only Presenter Lu talked, talked, talked and talked ceaselessly during the 23 minutes' broadcasting time. Not to mention saying anything, Yuan Zhou didn't even make any sounds.

"Hooo... Luckily I managed to weather through all this. God knows what I have experienced." The programme had been on TV, but Presenter Lu didn't want to watch it.

Whoever talked ceaselessly for half an hour would feel sick. It was rare for him not to watch his own program, but just rest leisurely there.

As for Scenarist Li, he appeared even more exaggerated.

"I don't even want to see a television today." It was what Scenarist Li had originally said.

The work of photography was supposed to be the easiest. After all, it was just shooting a still scenery. Although profundity was required by the chief editor, it was nevertheless easier than

shooting living things.

Although Presenter Lu and Scenarist Li didn't watch the program, many people looked forward to watching it.

These people were naturally the customers of Yuan Zhou's restaurant who had been notified by Yuan Zhou's little fan, Tangxi.

Seeing Yuan Zhou appear on TV, they also felt proud.

Yuan Zhou's Documentary, which was discarded by Presenter Lu as if it were a hot potato, caused strong waves since it was broadcast.

For example, the youths like Wu Hong who dreamed of being a chef, and a big crowd of foodies.

After the broadcasting at 10:00 p.m. yesterday and the rebroadcasting at noon the following day, Yuan Zhou was made known to everyone around the district.

"Did you watch the 'Folk Talent' yesterday? That chef is so handsome!" Two girls were discussing the matter on the bus.

Obviously, one of them was a senior foodie at a glance. During the moment of asking the question, she had eaten up a small bag of potato chips along with a sound of "Ka Ca Ka Ca".

"Of course. I really want to eat up the sculpted finished product in one gulp." The foodie girl always talked about eating as soon as she spoke.

"Hey! Why do you want to eat such a beautiful work? Don't you feel we should keep it?" Another girl pinched the cheek of the foodie girl discontentedly.

"It's so crystal clear like a real crystal flower. It should be edible." The foodie girl defended herself.

Then, the two of them started to discuss whether or not it could be eaten.

The foodie forum that Sun Ming had always stayed active in paid closer attention to that. There had already been heated discussions about it on the forum.

[I have never expected that Boss Yuan would be so handsome on TV. He is even prettier than the flower.] from Leisurely Zi You.

[You didn't get the point. This is the very first time that we saw Boss Yuan sculpt with our own eyes. What flower is this? It's so beautiful.] from Foolish Kid.

[What I see is his incomparable knife skills. Right, it's the knife skills. After all, he sculpted it with a kitchen knife. How awesome that is!] from Reading Makes Me Drunk.

[None of you get the point. Now, I suggest we go to Masterchef's Restaurant this Sunday. Anybody that wants to go together please reports your names here.] from Painting Youth.

Once he made the suggestion, other foodies got back to topic and all reported their names one after another.

Yuan Zhou's influence was spreading out slowly bit by bit while Yuan Zhou was busy preparing dishes for the beautiful girls.

"You said we can order whatever we like." Dressed in a black long skirt and a long-sleeved shirt outside, Jiang Changxi looked beautiful and charming. She sat on the chair and said solemnly.

"What I actually said is that only you can order whatever you like." Yuan Zhou looked at the two people in front of him and said primly.

Another person that was excluded by Yuan Zhou was, naturally, the one that came along with Jiang Changxi. It was Yin Ya.

Sigh... Judging from his words, Yuan Zhou was undoubtedly destined to be single forever.

## Chapter 421: "Privileges" of Beauties

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"Hey, what do you mean? I brought her here. Are you going to reject her?" Jiang Changxi smacked the table and asked immediately.

"Sister Jiang, I don't need his treat." Humiliated by Yuan Zhou's word, Yin Ya answered with a flush, naturally from anger.

"No, I'm just informing you that I didn't say that at that time." Yuan Zhou frowned and explained.

Jiang Changxi first pressed Yin Ya down on the seat and then uttered immediately.

"But you also didn't say that I cannot bring others to eat together." Jiang Changxi looked at Yuan Zhou complacently and said.

"I didn't say that too." Yuan Zhou nodded his head positively.

Only then did Yin Ya follow Jiang Changxi's force and sat down. However, the flush on her face was still there. It was probably because she was still very angry about that.

"That's fine. Now is the time for you to keep promise. We want to order dishes now." Jiang Changxi said with a manner of a queen.

"Here is the menu. Please order whatever you like." Yuan Zhou showed them the exquisite lotus-pattern menu on the table.

"I want another menu." Jiang Changxi uttered immediately when she saw there was only one menu on the table.

"Please." Yuan Zhou took out another menu decisively.

Jiang Changxi was known to be loud but the yell just now startled even Yuan Zhou. After all, it was indeed terrible for him. With his sharp ears and eyes, such yelling was no different than setting off firecrackers by his ears.

In order to prevent his ears from being tortured again, Yuan

Zhou just allowed her to continue.

"Humph." When Yin Ya received the menu from Yuan Zhou, she snorted coldly at him.

Yin Ya was wearing a black high-neck shirt today. Jade-white buttons ornamented the black shirt and the black shirt served as a contrast with her jade-white skin. She looked extraordinarily pretty.

A beauty is beautiful even when she was angry. Though Yuan Zhou felt her anger came out inexplicably, he still felt she was beautiful.

"If I can order whatever I like, I'd order two servings of Dongpo Pig Knuckle first." Jiang Changxi had long been hankering after this dish, but every time she could only eat one serving. Therefore, she was still a little unsatisfied with that.

"I'm sorry. You still have to respect the rules." Yuan Zhou pointed to the rules on the wall and said.

"Then why did you tell me to order whatever I like?" Jiang Changxi said, not intending to yield a step at all.

"Yes. You don't need to pay and you can order each and every dish on the menu, but only one serving of it, as long as you can finish them." Yuan Zhou nodded his head quite naturally.

"Compass, you'll become a real compass sooner or later." Jiang Changxi was speechless.

"Then for the dishes required advance preparations, we can also order all of them now." Yin YI said affirmatively.

"Yes. They are all well prepared." Yuan Zhou nodded his head and revealed an invulnerable expression.

"Boss Yuan, you'll not be able to find a girlfriend that way." Jiang Changxi let out a sigh.

"Yes, I can. The girls are just too reserved." Yuan Zhou said while

looking at the two girls earnestly.

"Ho Ho. Little Ya, you also order one serving of Dongpo Pig Knuckle. This dish is the most expensive one. Just let him have a heartache." Jiang Changxi said to Yin Ya at the side.

"Ok. I also want a serving of Dongpo Pig Knuckle," said Yin Ya while looking at the menu. She intentionally avoided Yuan Zhou's gaze.

"No problem. One moment, please." When Yuan Zhou said that, his voice was soft and gentle but Yin Ya's tone was cold.

"If you two need any other dishes, just continue to order them. I can hear you." Seeing Yin Ya keeping silent and Jiang Changxi thinking hard and preparing to order dishes, he started to pay.

He took out his own money and put it on the table. Then, the two girls turned their sight toward Yuan Zhou.

"What are you doing?" Jiang Changxi asked directly.

"Paying." Yuan Zhou revealed an expression of "You ask, but already know."

"Nonsense. I'm asking why you are paying to yourself." Jiang Changxi felt it was a test of patience to talk to Yuan Zhou every time.

"Pay first before eating. This is my rule." Yuan Zhou said lightly.

"Do you also pay when you treat? Don't tell me you also pay when you eat the dishes yourself." Jiang Chang asked back with a speechless manner.

"Of course." Neither of the girls expected that Yuan Zhou would nod his head.

"You even pay for your meals in your own restaurant? Are you actually a compass that has evolved into a human?" Jiang Changxi said in surprise.

"I'm making myself an example." Yuan Zhou appeared rather



serious.

"Boss Yuan, you win. Yes, you win." Jiang Changxi felt quite helpless and couldn't help admiring him.

It was fairly difficult to persist on one thing for a long time. Take getting up early every day for example, one can hardly insist on that for long. Besides that, it was more difficult to insist on one's principles. Therefore, Jiang Changxi and Yin Ya admired Yuan Zhou inwardly very much.

Only in that way could Yuan Zhou make them obey the rules that he had set.

"Dumb and slow-witted." When Yuan Zhou turned around, Yin Ya suddenly said.

Yuan Zhou knitted his brows and looked at Yin Ya with puzzlement.

In his heart, however, he speculated, "She might think I am a little stupid to pay to myself. But I'm wrongfully accused."

Even so, Yuan Zhou couldn't bring that out. After he returned to the kitchen range, Yuan Zhou abandoned all the distracting thoughts and started to prepare the ingredients attentively.

When he carried two servings of Dongpo Pig Knuckle to them, Jiang Changxi and Yin Ya had also ordered the remaining dishes.

As usual, Yuan Zhou paid himself first and then began to make the delicacies.

"This Boss Yuan is so persistent." Jiang Changxi sighed with emotion toward Yin Ya.

"He's just too clumsy." Yin Ya ridiculed.

"Haha. Exactly. Our big beauty, Yin Ya, is here, but he surprisingly doesn't know to pay his respects to you. He's totally ignorant of romance." Jiang Changxi burst into laughter and then began to joke with Yin Ya.

"Sister Jiang, I'm not talking about that." Instantly, Yin Ya's white and pretty face turned red due to the embarrassment.

"Then what's that? You have watched the TV programs about Yuan Zhou's restaurant recently, haven't you? So many more girls falling in love with Boss Yuan. Don't you feel worried?" As a three-lost woman, it was easy for her to joke with a young girl.

"It has nothing to do with me." Yin Ya turned her head and said naturally.

"Haha. Ok, whatever you say. Let's eat the dish now. This is a special treat by Boss Yuan and caused Wu Hai to be envious of us very much." Seeing Yin Ya blush, Jiang Changxi stopped joking with her and started to say something else.

It was known that Jiang Changxi was both patient and caring toward pretty girls.

The atmosphere of the restaurant was harmonious while the fragrance of the delicious dishes likewise drifted faintly about in Yuan Zhou's restaurant. After all, it wasn't the business hours right now.

The atmosphere at the TV station was also quite joyous. The chief editor was praising Presenter Lu.

"The audience rating for the program 'Folk Talent' this time has risen by two positions. I hereby congratulate everybody." Once the chief editor spoke, everyone else calmed down.

However, whispering was inevitable.

"That person, Yuan Zhou, seems really popular among the audience." Scenarist Li snorted.

"It is lucky that we have finished the shooting." Presenter Lu smiled and said generously.

According to Murphy's Law, however, the more reluctant you are to see a person, the higher the probability that he appears in front

of you.

"The shooting of this episode 'Yuan Zhou's Documentary' is really good." After the chief editor congratulated the staff, he turned his head and said to Presenter Lu beside him.

"Thank you, chief editor." Presenter Lu stopped smiling and said reservedly.

"Well done. Keep going." The chief editor patted on the shoulder of Presenter Lu.

"Um, alright. Wait, what do you mean by saying 'keep going'?" Presenter Lu nodded proudly at first and then he suddenly reacted and asked.

"As it has received great popularity, we decide to make a series on Yuan Zhou's restaurant," answered the chief editor with a smile.

"Oh, no...." Presenter Lu couldn't help but freak out inwardly.

# Chapter 422: Enthusiasm of The Young

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"The producer and I have decided to shoot a series. Since it's a documentary, 20 minutes are not long enough." The chief editor patted the shoulder of Presenter Lu smilingly and continued saying.

"You did great in the shoot this time. I will give the series to you to do. While the iron is still hot, we will work harder to make it surpass the first two positions." The chief editor was fairly ambitious.

The program that had obtained the highest audience rating on their TV station was a very famous program concerning law and the presenter was also an influential leading light. Presenter Lu didn't dare to think of surpassing him.

"But the shooting of Chen's Restaurant last time is halfway done." Presenter Lu said, not willing to give up.

What a joke! When they interviewed Yuan Zhou last time, he didn't say a single word nor did he even make a sound all along. It's really an awkward experience.

"Never mind. Just postpone it until we finish the documentary." The chief editor waved his hand and said indifferently.

"But..."

"I have faith in you."

"But..."

"Presenter Lu, this important task is given to you now."

"But..."

"By the way, remember that you must communicate with that chef. Although he didn't say anything in this episode and it wasn't bad either, you still have to pay attention to mutual communication."

Having been interrupted for three times continuously, Presenter Lu had nothing to say now.

The chief editor lowered his head and sorted the documents for a while. When he raised his head, he couldn't help asking, "Um? Presenter Lu, do you still have something to tell me?"

"No, I don't... I'm going to work, chief editor. Presenter Lu said helplessly.

"Go ahead. Remember don't give yourself too much pressure." The chief editor specially instructed.

"..." Presenter Lu nodded his head.

Then, he left silently.

After he returned to his own seat, Presenter Lu looked at the audience rating and couldn't help sighing, "It's really painful, yet somewhat happy."

Naturally, Yuan Zhou had no idea about the problems of Presenter Lu. He was still studying the etiquette of the western-style food. After all, he had obtained it for quite a long time and thus, it was about time to reveal it. However, Yuan Zhou was not lacking in patience at all now.

It was 3:00 p.m. and the sunshine was just right. It was a rare occurrence where Yuan Zhou wasn't sculpting this time, but was just sitting at the door of his restaurant.

"The sunshine is so nice today, isn't it?" His neighbor Boss Tong said smilingly to Yuan Zhou while squinting at him.

"It's indeed nice. Very comfortable." Yuan Zhou nodded his head.

"Little Yuan, listen to me. You really should find a girlfriend." At her age, Boss Tong naturally cared more about Yuan Zhou's marriage.

"Yes. I'm trying." Whenever he spoke of this subject, Yuan Zhou always nodded his head seriously.

"It's good that you realize this problem. I see many girls coming and going in your restaurant. You'd better be hurry." Boss Tong said smilingly.

"Um." Yuan Zhou nodded his head.

While Yuan Zhou was chatting with his old neighbor and enjoying the warm sunshine on this side, Wu Hong and his aunt nevertheless weren't so harmonious.

"Wu Hong, let me tell you. That chef won't take anybody as his disciple. Don't be silly." It was the beautiful girl. However, this beautiful girl was losing her temper at the moment with a flush on her pretty face.

"Aunt, why do you still worry about this problem now that you have come here with me?" Wu Hong asked with puzzlement.

"Do you think I want to be here? I'm just worried about you." The beautiful girl knitted her brows and asked quite helplessly.

"Even if he's reluctant to take disciples, I am able to make him do so. I have a lot of patience." Wu Hong said with a resolute gaze.

"You have promised me to go back with me if you fail." This time, the beautiful girl said with an anxious tone.

The two people debating were Wu Hong and his aunt who came to Chengdu after they watched the program of "Folk Talent".

Wu Hong just graduated from the university this year. His dream was to study culinary skills and become a Michelin three-star chef. His aunt, named Wu Qian, was his senior based on generation, but actually she was only one year older than him.

Due to some family reasons, his aunt really did take him as the younger generation and hence cared about him a lot. Except for this matter of taking a master, Wu Hong had always respected her.

Of course, his aunt loved him very much. Otherwise, she wouldn't come after him to Chengdu from such a distant place just

because of Wu Hong's obstinacy.

"I know. But if I can manage it, that will be my capabilities." Wu Hong said confidently.

"I had searched for his information before we came. Even a master-level person failed in asking him to be his teacher, let alone you." Wu Qian snorted and said loudly.

"I'm different from him. I'm smarter." Wu Hong said persistently.

"I won't say anything more with you. The restaurant is right in front of you." Seeing Yuan Zhou's restaurant was right in front of them, she didn't debate with him anymore.

"Hoo..." Wu Hong took a deep breath when he saw Yuan Zhou sitting at the door leisurely.

"Don't go if you are afraid." Wu Qian said in a low voice.

She knew much about this nephew of hers. He talked loudly but seldom actually acted. After all, the teacher he was going to ask for guidance previously didn't answer him at all. At that time, he could only give up.

To be frank, Wu Qian felt this nephew had just read too many novels. He could straightforwardly pay and study the culinary arts. Why would he go take others as his teacher? However, Wu Hong insisted on his own opinion that a teacher mattered a lot. And on that point, no one could persuade him.

"Hello, Yuan Zhou. I'm Wu Hong. I witnessed your sculpting skills on the program 'Folk Talent'. It was awesome! It simply reaches the acme of perfection and displays superlative craftsmanship. So I want to request to be your disciple." Wu Hong went up and introduced himself and brought out his purpose bluntly.

And he didn't give Yuan Zhou a single opportunity to speak before he brought it all out.

"Hello. But I don't intend to take anybody as my disciple." Yuan Zhou sat up straight and listened to Wu Hong silently. Only after Wu Hong finished did he say earnestly.

Looking at Wu Hong's fervent expression and nervous posture of clenching his fist, Yuan Zhou naturally responded seriously.

"I'm obedient. Besides, I know you are unable to do all the work in your restaurant alone. I can do any work including carrying dishes, sweeping the ground and washing the bowls." Wu Hong promoted himself eagerly.

At that time, Yuan Zhou stood up and looked into the distance. Then, he naturally saw Wu Qian who paid close attention to them.

With Yuan Zhou's sharp ears, he clearly heard their conversations about seeking him to be Wu Hong's teacher just now, but Yuan Zhou felt he was indeed unable to teach a disciple. Even when Wu Hai made the request, he treated it as an exchange of skills rather than teaching him directly.

Considering Wu Hai's destructive power to the kitchen, Yuan Zhou dared not to eat it.

After all, the dish of the Rainbow Beef Brisket was still lingering in his mind. Yuan Zhou totally didn't want to eat pigments.

"I'm sorry, but I don't need any manpower to do those work. Besides, some of the work is in the charge of my staff. Go back with your aunt." Yuan Zhou said lightly.

"I can work for you for free. I don't require any salary." Wu Hong felt no one would refuse such a condition.

He was merely a free helper.

"Thank you, but I don't need it." Yuan Zhou refused him again earnestly.

"Why won't you take me?" Wu Hong asked straightforwardly.

Perhaps because Yuan Zhou didn't have the arrogance that other



chefs usually had, Wu Hong became confident and thus dared to ask directly.

Yuan Zhou indeed had a good temperament. If other chefs were stopped and asked inexplicably to take a disciple, even the good-tempered one would turn around and leave without hesitation.

Some bad-tempered chef might scold him directly. Contrarily, Yuan Zhou refused him in a quite serious manner.

"Because I don't intend to take disciples." Yuan Zhou still refused with the reason that he had told Master Cheng.

"Yuan Zhou, I will never leave until you agree." Wu Hong suddenly said that.

"No need to waste your time. Just go back." Yuan Zhou finally knitted his brows and said that.

However, Wu Hong just stood at the door of Yuan Zhou's restaurant and looked at Yuan Zhou perversely.

"My goodness! He is really a persistent young guy." Boss Tong muttered to himself with a smile.

However, Yuan Zhou didn't answer him at all. He directly moved the chair back into his restaurant and started to prepare the ingredients required for the dinner.

"You failed, so go back with me." Seeing Yuan Zhou go back, Wu Qian went up and said to his nephew.

"No. I will wait here." Wu Hong said decisively.

"But you have promised me." Wu Qian became flustered and exasperated.

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# Chapter 423: Standing to Wait for Yuan Zhou Respectfully

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"Aunt, you can go back first. I will find a way to make Yuan Zhou agree to take me as his disciple." Wu Hong looked at Wu Qian with a determined look.

"Listen to me, kid. You can also study the culinary skills in the training school." Wu Qian clutched Wu Hong's hand quickly.

"No. I must take him as my teacher." Wu Hong revealed a resolute expression.

"What if you miss me?" Wu Qian was very angry.

"Aunt, just say yes, ok?" Wu Hong still said the same words.

"Ok, ok. You take him as your teacher here alone and I'm going back." Wu Qian turned around and walked away immediately angrily.

"Be careful, aunt." Instead of worrying about her, Wu Hong said to Wu Qian leisurely.

"This little brat!" Hearing that, Wu Qian felt both angry and funny. In the end, however, she didn't look back again and just left.

"Hoo..." Wu Hong relaxed down. After thinking for a while, he said loudly behind the door.

"Yuan Zhou, I definitely won't leave until you take me as your disciple." Wu Hong sounded extraordinarily resolute when he said that.

"He's really a bother." Yuan Zhou let out a sigh of "I really don't understand the young nowadays".

"He will probably leave after some while." Having paid little attention to him, Yuan Zhou continued preparing the ingredients

required by the dinner earnestly.

Time passed very soon when one was devoted to one thing seriously, which also applied to Yuan Zhou.

Just as he had managed to get everything prepared, the first several customers likewise entered the restaurant.

"Boss Yuan, did you hire a doorman?" Chen Wei ridiculed Yuan Zhou once he spoke with his coarse voice.

"I don't think so. That person is practicing his ability to stand." Man Man also said smilingly.

"He probably came here to visit Boss Yuan especially because of Boss Yuan's great charm. Boss Yuan, right?" Jiang Changxi didn't beat about the bush and ridiculed him directly.

"Is he still here?" Yuan Zhou was a little astounded.

From his angle, he couldn't see Wu Hong as there were too many customers waiting outside.

"Yes, he's still there. In ancient times, a famous person stood in the snow to wait for Master Cheng respectfully while now, this guy is standing here to wait for Yuan Zhou." Wu Hai gloated while stroking his small mustaches.

"I don't think he has such a good persistence." On the contrary, Man Man had a different opinion.

"Let's wait and see." Jiang Changxi raised her eyebrows and sat down, saying that.

"Yes, why not?" Man Man nodded her head.

"Time for dinner." Yuan Zhou said lightly.

"Jia Jia, come and take orders." Jiang Changxi immediately summoned Zhou Jia to take her order.

"I have to go out and take a look." Seeing Yuan Zhou only start cooking after some time, Master Cheng, who was standing by

silently, couldn't help thinking that inwardly.

As soon as he came today, Master Cheng saw Wu Hong standing at the door, but he didn't think too much about it at that time. Afterwards, he entered the restaurant hurriedly to prepare to do any work within his power.

Currently, Master Cheng was basically doing part of Zhou Jia and Shen Min's work. If not for the reason that he had previously only worked in the kitchen and wasn't good at greeting customers, perhaps he would also do this work in place of Zhou Jia and Shen Min.

After all, he did all the remaining work including sweeping the ground, wiping the table and carrying the plates, etc.

At that moment, Master Cheng didn't actually know Wu Hong had come to request Yuan Zhou to be his teacher just like him. Now that he heard about it, he was naturally curious and wanted to ask him.

"Did you also come to request Yuan Zhou to be your teacher?" Once Master Cheng went out and saw Wu Hong, he asked directly.

Of course, he was guessing which master the person was. Master Cheng wasn't really clear about the matter of the program, thus he believed the person was also a cooking master and assumed that.

"Yes." Wu Hong had been there at the door for nearly three hours without even drinking any water. He was too feeble to even speak.

"This way won't work. You are so young and is definitely a talent. Just show him your craftsmanship and you might have an opportunity." Master Cheng was a kind-hearted person, or more precisely, he was in the same situation and had the same feelings as Wu Hong.

"But I don't know anything about cooking. Where can I get the craftsmanship?" Wu Hong said weakly.

"No craftsmanship? A green hand?" Then, Master Chen got

surprised.

This time, Wu Hong only nodded his head and didn't say anything.

"Then you do this. Boss Yuan is a thin-skinned and soft-hearted person. You try to keep calling him teacher, no matter what happens. It might work this way." Master Cheng suddenly thought of the story in the martial art novels and suggested immediately.

As for why he didn't use this method, obviously he wasn't foolish. What if Yuan Zhou hated that way very much?

"Would it work?" Wu Hong was a little suspicious. After all, Yuan Zhou hadn't admitted him as his disciple. If he called Yuan Zhou his teacher without his consent, would that annoy Yuan Zhou?

"Of course. I have been with Boss Yuan for quite a long time." Master Cheng had originally intended to say 'quite a few days'. Thinking it wouldn't be convincing, however, he immediately corrected himself.

"Ok, let me try." Wu Hong nodded his head solemnly.

"Come on, kid." Master Cheng looked honest and sincere.

"If he can succeed, I might also be able to succeed. If he is willing to one as his disciple, why can't he take two?" With his seemingly honest and sincere face, Master Cheng thought earnestly.

"Hey, drink some water. My boss told me to give you the water." Master Cheng brushed past Zhou Jia who was carrying a bowl of water.

"Really?" Wu Hong got excited.

"Of course. Boss Yuan is very nice." Zhou Jia nodded her head.

"Thank you, thank you." Wu Hong received a common porcelain bowl and drank up the warm water inside in one breath.

"You have drunk the water. Boss Yuan wants you to leave." Zhou Jia took the bowl back and then said.

"No, I must take him as my teacher." Wu Hong wiped his mouth and became more resolute.

"Suit yourself." Zhou Jia didn't intend to persuade him. After saying that, she took the bowl and went back.

Wu Hong nevertheless strengthened his belief inwardly.

"That person seems to be right. Yuan Zhou is both soft-hearted and thin-skinned. I still have opportunities." Wu Hong encouraged himself secretly.

"Our Boss Yuan has become more and more famous. The first boss offered tens of millions to hire him; a cooking master beat gongs and sounded drums in order to request him to be his teacher; No-Discount Ling wanted to employ him from time to time; and now, this young man insisted on requesting him as his teacher again." The customers in the line started to whisper to one another.

"Exactly. However, that TV program was shot really well, even better than a movie." A customer nodded his head continuously to show his consent.

"That's totally due to the special effects. How could the film be compared to Boss Yuan's authentic ingredients?" Another customer said scornfully.

"That indeed made sense." Other customers echoed.

"How long do you guys think he can stay here?" Customers were quite curious about this point.

"I don't know." The customers shook his head one after another.

"Come on. Let's bet on that. Those who win can raise some money to eat here." It was Gu Li'an who always loved betting.

"It's you, again. What are you betting this time?" As soon as the customers heard 'raise money to eat', they showed great interest.

"Let's bet on how long he can stay here." Gu Li'an said cleanly.

"Three options: two days, three days and the last, more than 5 days. Of course, people who bet can't be more than 100." Gu Li'an pointed at Wu Hong secretly and said.

"Why isn't there the option of one day? I think one day is more or less enough for him. After all, Boss Yuan's rules aren't only for decoration." A customer asked with puzzlement.

"It will be one day by the end of today." Gu Li'an said smartly.

"Yeah, that makes sense. Then I bet 50 RMB on two days." This customer immediately chose the least days.

"I believe he can stay at least three days. Of course, it's because of Boss Yuan's craftsmanship." The customer said right after that.

Instantly, the atmosphere became more boisterous.

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# Chapter 424: How To Borrow Money Gracefully

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"I can make it." Hearing so many discussions about himself, Wu Hong blushed and said loudly.

Once Wu Hong said that, the restaurant instantly fell silent for quite a while. After that, a customer uttered.

"Young man, it's not we don't have faith in you. Boss Yuan is just too... You will understand." The customer shook his head and said.

"Yes, he's right. Boss Yuan is nice in every aspect, but just too..." Another customer said right after that.

"Exactly. Everyone that often comes for meals knows Boss Yuan has god-tier culinary skills. But he's just like that." A girl likewise couldn't help saying.

"Too what?" Seeing the customers all reveal an expression of "You will understand", Wu Hong became totally muddled. He didn't know what these customers were talking about.

"He sticks to his own rules strictly." The customers said with one accord.

"It's good to stick to rules." Wu Hong was quite puzzled about that, but he still said that.

"Oh, yeah, absolutely. It's good to stick to rules. However, others at least know to compromise in special circumstances. Here in Boss Yuan's restaurant, never. Don't ever think about it. He doesn't compromise at all," said Gu Li'an who initiated the betting game.

"I heard from others that even Boss Yuan's brother has to line up when he comes to eat," said a customer who had seen Sun Ming before.

"Remember a star also came here once last time? She enjoyed the same treatment as others." A customer suddenly remembered that



star.

"Yes. So you won't be different from others. Boss Yuan won't take you as his disciple, either." Gu Li'an shrugged and said positively.

"Not necessarily." Wu Hong clenched his fists and was still reluctant to give up.

What a joke! If he gave up now, what had he stood there for three hours for? Wu Hong felt he could still persist for a while longer.

Sometimes, people were unwilling to give up just because he had invested too much previously and didn't want to waste the previous efforts. Therefore, Wu Hong became more resolute now although he wasn't really so resolute before.

"Boss Yuan, Boss Yuan, is a new dish? New dish?" As soon as Ma Zhida entered the restaurant, he asked about the new dish.

After all, he was a man that called himself The Little Prince of New Dishes.

"Mr. Ma, I'm sorry. But we don't have any new dish available recently." Zhou Jia straightforwardly went up and answered him.

"I don't mean to blame you, Boss Yuan. But you have become lazy and degenerated." Ma Zhida covered his chest with one hand and revealed a look of heartache and headache.

"Mr. Ma, you are still as humorous as before." Zhou Jia smiled cooperatively.

Every time Ma Zhida did so, Zhou Jia and Shen Min basically cooperated with him. Those who often talked sarcastically against him were naturally Wu Hai and some other people.

"Oh, what damn humor! He's just pretending to be childish." Wu Hai snorted.

"Scary. I just want to eat a new dish." Ma Zhida revealed an innocent expression.

"Please sit down and eat." Customers lining up behind started to

urge them one after another.

What a joke! This concerns on whether or not they could eat the delicacies earlier.

"Yeah, yeah, I got it. I'll order right away. One serving of Egg Fried Rice, please." Ma Zhida turned his head and begged for mercy. Only then did he tell Zhou Jia.

"Ok. One moment, please." Zhou Jia checked the phone and confirmed the money before nodding her head smilingly.

"Please do tell me what you want to order today?" After she received Ma Zhida, Zhou Jia diverted her attention to a young man seated at the side.

"One serving of Egg Fried Rice." This person also ordered the most frequently ordered dish, the Egg Fried Rice.

"Ok. The price is 188 RMB in all." Zhou Jia brought out the price smilingly.

"Pay before eating?" This person seemed to be new here. Stared by Zhou Jia, he was puzzled at first and only then reacted.

"Yes. It's one of our rules." Zhou Jia nodded her head.

"Ok. Wait a second." The young man had quite slender and white fingers. He reached out his hand and searched in the pockets of his black wind coat.

After his hand reached in the pockets, however, the expression on the face of the young man slightly changed and that lasted quite a while. Fortunately, Zhou Jia wasn't in a hurry.

"Jia Jia, one serving of beef here." The customer beside her shouted voluntarily.

The hands of the young man in front of Zhou Jia were still in the pockets and didn't come out.

The pockets of the coat were not big, but the man acted as if he had put his hands in the treasure pocket. Until now, he still didn't

intend to take them out.

Nevertheless, his expression became weirder and weirder. There was a little sweat on his flushed face.

"Sir, I'll go there first to take their orders." Zhou Jia said gently, not intending to urge him.

"Ok. Go ahead." The young man nodded his head earnestly with his hands still in the pockets.

"Alright." Zhou Jia nodded her head and then left.

Once Zhou Jia left, the young man became relieved immediately.

"Bro, it's the first time I have seen you in Yuan Zhou's restaurant, but I think you need this." Just when the young man was searching in his pockets hurriedly, Ma Zhida suddenly said that.

There had appeared two brand-new notes of 100 RMB before the young man answered.

The two notes were completely new and same as other new notes which had bright colors and a clear texture. The hand that held the money was also very beautiful. At least, the young man believed so.

"Thank you." The young man took the money and said courteously without hesitation.

"Not at all. Remember to give it back to me when you finish. If you want to express your gratitude, you can treat me to a meal in Yuan Zhou's restaurant." Ma Zhida said in a joking tone.

"No, don't think about that. It's too expensive to eat there." The young man also joked with him.

Having finished taking orders and returned, Zhou Jia found the two people were chatting with each other like others and there wasn't anything special.

The young man likewise paid the money for the Egg Fried Rice naturally and waited there to eat later.

"Boss Yuan, did you tell Zhou Jia to send water to that guy?" After Ling Hong finished the meal, he stood up, came to the other side and asked curiously.

"Um." Yuan Zhou nodded his head.

"Tsk-tsk. You changed your mind?" Ling Hong asked with interest.

"No." Yuan Zhou treasured his words very much. After all, Ling Hong had deceived him for quite a few times.

With the thought of saying as little as possible to Ling Hong, Yuan Zhou answered earnestly.

"He looks quite enthusiastic." Ling Hong shrugged.

"Enthusiasm of the young." The implied meaning of Yuan Zhou was that Wu Hong wouldn't stay here for long.

"But he has stood there for more than three hours." Ling Hong burst into laughter.

"That's why I sent water to him." Yuan Zhou looked at Ling Hong and said earnestly to him.

"Then why did you give him the Yibao bottled water and even pour it into the bowl?" Ling Hong wanted to know this most.

"Yes, why? The water we are drinking is good." Man Man loved the cup of mineral water provided along with the dishes in Yuan Zhou's restaurant very much and hence asked curiously.

"Because he's not my customer." Yuan Zhou answered deservedly.

"And also because one cannot simply throw trash outside." Yuan Zhou liked speaking in two parts.

Others spoke in one complete part while Yuan Zhou talked with short parts. Luckily, the customers were used to that.

"Master Yuan, will you take him as your disciple?" It was Master

Cheng who asked about this.

"No." Yuan Zhou's answer was still unchanged.

Hearing that, Master Cheng wasn't clear whether or not to be relieved.

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## Chapter 425: Where Did Broth Come From?

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When dinner time ended, Wu Hong was still there. As soon as Yuan Zhou came out, he spoke.

"Teacher, please take me as your disciple." Wu Hong didn't speak as loudly as before this time, but still earnestly.

Yuan Zhou looked at Wu Hong in surprise at first. Only after he confirmed that Wu Hong was calling him did he say, "I remember that I didn't agree to your request."

"Yes. So please do take me as your disciple." Wu Hong nodded his head vigorously.

"Then, why are you calling me teacher?" Yuan Zhou frowned.

What a joke! As soon as the word "teacher" was uttered, Yuan Zhou almost thought he had suffered from Alzheimer's disease and forgot he took a disciple.

"You'll definitely take me as your disciple in the end. So I called ahead of time." Looking at Yuan Zhou, Wu Hong revealed quite a resolute expression.

"I'm sorry. I do not intend to take a disciple." After Yuan Zhou repeated that once, he entered the restaurant and no longer came out.

Having returned to the restaurant, Yuan Zhou looked at Wu Hong who was still there and faintly knitted his brows with a distressed look. But soon, he said to himself.

"His aunt will come to persuade him." Thinking of that, Yuan Zhou became relieved.

"Boss Yuan, Boss Yuan. Can I watch a football match here in your restaurant?" Wu Hai ran into the restaurant excitedly.

"Is there a football match?" Yuan Zhou wasn't actually clear about that.

"Yes. Atlanta will be playing versus Pescara in the Italy Cup today. I like the goalkeeper of Atlanta, Liny. He is a man that could catch the ball with his face." Wu Hai stroked his mustaches and revealed an excited look.

"Can football be played with the human face now?" Yuan Zhou asked in surprise.

"Boss Yuan, this is only a metaphor." Wu Hai was made speechless by the question.

"Yes, you can watch the match here under the condition you bring the equipment yourself." Yuan Zhou didn't take notice of Wu Hai's expression, but instead answered his previous question.

"As for the electricity charge, I'm happy today, so it's for free." Right following that, Yuan Zhou continued saying.

"So you mean you will charge me for electricity if you don't have a good mood." Wu Hai asked.

"Of course." Yuan Zhou answered frankly.

"I've never thought you were that kind of person. I just want to watch a football match and you, surprisingly, intend to charge me for electricity." Wu Hai pointed at Yuan Zhou and revealed an unbelievable expression.

"It's for free this time. You are welcome." Yuan Zhou said deservedly.

"..." The thought inside Wu Hai was, "Should I say thank you?"

"Well. Remember to take the equipment away when you finish." Yuan Zhou reminded.

"Don't worry. Zheng Jiawei will send them here and then send them back afterwards." Wu Hai waved his hand and said leisurely.

Yuan Zhou just nodded his head without saying anything.

"Finally, I caught up to it. I can watch the match while drinking. Atlanta, great!" Wu Hai said comfortably.

"Humph. I don't think there's anything good with Atlanta. I prefer Pescara." Once the words were uttered, Wu Hai's delight was interrupted.

"How many time has Pescara been defeated? So weak." Wu Hai immediately retorted back at him.

After saying that, he found it was the novelist that often came to drink liquor.

Once Wu Hai said that, the novelist instantly got infuriated. Whoever dared to speak ill about his favorite football team would receive his ruthless blow.

"A small painter as you surprisingly likes watching football matches?" The novelist snorted.

"You are merely a person that writes something. Do you also understand how the football is played?" Wu Hai said sarcastically.

"At least I'm more knowledgeable than you." The novelist answered, unwilling to admit defeat.

"I'm doing art. Of course, a writer like you won't understand." Wu Hai didn't even take a glance at the novelist.

In just that little while, the two people got into an argument over a simple matter that could be subsided with a few words.

Furthermore, Wu Hai even threw down his gauntlet for the sake of that football player who could play football with his face.

"It's definitely Atlanta that will win tonight. I'd bet a cup of liquor on that." Stroking his small mustaches, Wu Hai said with a manner of heroism.

"You are thinking too much. Pescara will absolutely win tonight. One cup, no problem." The novelist immediately agreed to the bet.

"Boss Yuan, you bear witness." Wu Hai directly dragged Yuan Zhou out.

"Ok." Yuan Zhou nodded with a serious expression.



After all, it was a great event that was worth a cup of bamboo liquor.

While the people were discussing in Yuan Zhou's restaurant about the liquor over here, there were also other people trying to obtain the liquor by the side street.

"Sweetheart, the liquor served in that small restaurant is said to be awfully tasty. Shall we go have a try?" Wearing high-heeled shoes, a silky long skirt and a black windbreaker, the woman looked both tall and pretty on the whole.

"You refused to come here when I invited you last time. But now, you are eager to come." Her husband was also a sturdy young man with a BMW car key in his hand. Hearing that, he asked smilingly.

"I didn't know it was so delicious." Upon hearing that, the woman wasn't actually embarrassed.

"I heard the liquor is all ordered in advance. We can only go and try our luck." The sturdy man said helplessly.

"It doesn't matter. Let's just try. Wait, what's that?" The woman had originally intended to play the woman when he suddenly saw Broth lying by the door. She tugged the man's sleeve in surprise.

"It's merely a dog. So what?" The sturdy man was puzzled at first, but when he saw the dog, he said indifferently.

"Why didn't I see it when we came last time? It looks so much like Guaiguai?" The woman was still very astonished.

"I have no idea." The sturdy man knitted his brows.

"Do you think it is Guaiguai?" The woman said with puzzlement when she walked closer and saw the fluffy and soft long grey fur of Broth.

"No, it isn't. When Guaiguai was set free, its body was already festering. This dog doesn't look that way." The man stopped the woman and flatly denied.

"Woof." Broth seldom barked at others. This time, however, it barked once in a blue moon, yet in a low voice. Lying on the ground, it just stared at the two people in front of him with its black eyes.

"See? It even barks to me. I think the face is similar." The woman said hesitantly when she was dragged into the restaurant.

"Okay, okay. Don't be sad. Guaiguai was dying when it got skin disease and was set free. If you really feel sad, we can raise another one later." The sturdy man comforted the beautiful woman beside him gently.

The woman indeed looked sorrowful. She remembered the brown dog Maltese that she had always held in arms and loved when she was out. She either let it go to her husband or to herself. How lovable the Maltese was at that time!

"Is it possible that it's still alive?" The woman asked expectantly.

"No, it's not. Even the doctors said the ringworm was incurable. Don't think about it now. Let's go drink the liquor." The sturdy man patted on the woman's shoulder and comforted her.

The sturdy man didn't believe Broth was actually Guaiguai. After all, they had changed two pet hospitals before they threw the dog out. But the ringworm made Guaiguai keep licking its wounds, which made it unable to be cured. Apart from that, they also found it was a false Maltese once the number of baths it had increased.

All these reasons made them let go of him and set him free.

Staying outside the door, Broth didn't even turn his head, nor did it have other reactions. Just as always, he just watched the door of Yuan Zhou's restaurant dutifully.

# Chapter 426: Drinking Water And Sending The Visitor Off

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"Look, this dog really looks like our Guaiguai. What about we take it back home?" The woman took the arm of the sturdy man and said with a manner of a cute woman.

"No." The sturdy man refused her without even thinking a little bit.

"Why?" The woman asked with puzzlement.

"It's a stray dog and is undoubtedly very dirty. Let's go to buy one from the pet shop, ok? That's it," said the sturdy man.

"Alright. I want to drink liquor." The woman humphed sweetly.

"Ok, no problem." The sturdy man answered helplessly.

"Go ask quickly." The woman signaled the sturdy man to go up and ask.

Other drinkers had already gone to the second floor of the pub now while on the first floor, only Yuan Zhou was processing the food ingredients.

According to Yuan Zhou's habit, he arranged the ingredients that could be sorted every day to familiarize himself with these food ingredients, to deepen his understanding, and to cook more delicious dishes. It had been his pleasure by now.

So there are totally three people in the restaurant now, the couples and Yuan Zhou.

"Ah. You must be Boss Yuan. Hello, nice to meet you." The sturdy man nodded his head and then went up to greet Yuan Zhou.

"Hello. The business time for dinner has ended. No customers will be entertained." Yuan Zhou nodded and said straightforwardly.

"I know. I heard you serve liquor here, so I come to inquire if it's true." The sturdy man nodded his head first and then talked about the liquor in a euphemistic way.

"Yes. I provide three bottles of liquor every day." After a nod, Yuan Zhou showed him the menu on the wall beside him.

"That's great. Since Boss Yuan's craftsmanship is so good, the liquor is absolutely tasty, too." The sturdy man continued complimenting.

"Thank you. It's not early." Yuan Zhou thanked him courteously and tried to see him out euphemistically.

Having said that, Yuan Zhou suddenly thought of the scene of drinking water and sending the visitors off in the ancient costume TV drama.

He took the glass cup on the azure stone countertop dumbly and drank a mouthful of the water.

"It's fairly elegant to send visitors off by drinking water." Yuan Zhou nodded to himself in the heart with satisfaction.

"Don't do this, please. We come today to drink the liquor. It's 5888 RMB, right? Can I make the bank transfer?" The sturdy man took out his phone and said with a smile.

"I'm sorry. The liquor has been sold out." Yuan Zhou said earnestly.

"Could you bend the rules for us? Please. Three bottles per day is much little, boss." The woman beside the sturdy man said softly.

"It is the rule of my restaurant to provide three bottles of liquor every day." Yuan Zhou answered lightly.

"The rules are rigid, but we humans are flexible. I think you can bend the rules for us, can't you?" The sturdy man likewise smiled and said.

"I'm sorry. The business time has ended. Feel free to leave,

please." After saying that, Yuan Zhou took the cup and drank some water again.

At that moment, it was very clear that he was drinking the water to see them off.

"Are you sure you really can't?" The sturdy man became a little angry by then.

"Rules can't be violated." Yuan Zhou said calmly.

"Humph. Let's go." The woman couldn't help saying that.

"Ok. Let's go." The sturdy man was discontented with that, but he do nothing to change Yuan Zhou's mind.

After all, it was a society governed by laws. Free trading was a basic and universal rule in the markets. No one could force a trade using coercion.

"Um." The woman nodded her head. There was an angry look on her beautiful face, but soon it was well suppressed.

"Ta Ta Ta", the two people then walked out of the door with quicker steps. When they passed by Broth, they didn't even turn their head and take a look at it, not to mention remembering wanting to raise it.

Lying prone on the ground, Broth just watched them go farther and then made a light sound of "Wu Wu". The sound was so low that even Yuan Zhou didn't hear it.

However, it was merely an interlude which was known by Broth and the couples only. As for Wu Hong who stayed at the door, he went to the bathroom. After he came back, he was stopped even before he caught sight of the dog that had barely appeared.

"Wu Hong, don't be naughty. It's too late. Let's go back." Wu Qian looked at her nephew who had stood there for quite a while and then said helplessly.

"Aunt, I haven't made it." Wu Hong was reluctant to leave, but he

was truly tired.

"Let's come over here again tomorrow. Can't you see the boss is preparing to close the door now?" Wu Qian took a look at the empty restaurant and persuaded him softly.

"If I leave, will my teacher use this excuse to refuse me?" Wu Hong hesitated.

"Now that you have started to call him teacher, he surely won't do that." Wu Qian said affirmatively.

"Really?" Looking at Yuan Zhou that had no reaction at all and then at his own aunt, Wu Hong felt it not believable.

"Of course. Didn't you call him teacher just now? He might be testing you." Wu Qian wasn't really clear about this matter and thus explained with a well-reasoned logic.

"But in the literary quotation of standing in the snow to wait upon Master Cheng respectfully, the two people waited for so long." Wu Hong thought of his ambition and didn't want to admit defeat. So he said loudly to attract Yuan Zhou's attention.

"But you have also waited for nearly 4 hours. Let's come again tomorrow, ok?" Wu Qian took a deep breath and continued to persuade him.

"Well, okay. We will come tomorrow." Having glanced at Yuan Zhou who didn't even look out again, Wu Hong lowered his head and then said.

"No problem. Let's go." Wu Qian went up and dragged Wu Hong away happily.

"Slow down. Aunt, my legs are aching severely." Wu Hong shouted and explained.

"Look, what a long time you have stood there for? Let's go back. I bought lots of delicious food for you." Wu Qian felt a great headache with Wu Hong and immediately slowed down her

footsteps.

In the meantime, Yuan Zhou was relieved in his restaurant.

"He's finally gone." Yuan Zhou rejoiced at first and then he thought of Wu Hong's last word.

"This guy only stood there for three hours and feels tired. Too weak." Yuan Zhou slightly moved his legs and smiled with irony.

The occupation of the chef was originally laborious. It's very common to stand for one whole day when he was busy.

Take Yuan Zhou who had barely got the system for example, he basically stood for twelve hours per day. Fortunately, the restaurant belonged to him and by now, he had got used to that.

"Hahahahahaha." There passed a roar with laughter from the second floor of the pub. Apparently, it was Wu Hai.

"Humph. Uninteresting." Right after that was the cold snort of the novelist.

"As I said, Atlanta would definitely win. Come on, give your liquor to me." Wu Hai was so proud that the mustaches above his lips could almost dance in the air.

"It's merely the blind cat catching a dead mouse (meaning a sheer blind chance)." The novelist carried a cup of liquor unwillingly to him and still didn't want to admit it.

"Yes, yes, you are right. A dead mouse of 2:0 and 2:1. Haw-haw." Wu Hai totally didn't know where to draw the line and hence continued to show off.

"Humph." The novelist got nothing to say now. He only snorted coldly and then left.

The football match came to an end and so did the opening hours. The drinkers watched the football match contentedly and left one after another.

The novelist felt he lost face and thus was severely indignant.

After all, Pescara had always been his favorite team.

Even when he went back home and washed up, he still found it unacceptable. Therefore, he sat on the bed and thought of the match.

"Forget it. Sleep." The novelist let out a sigh and lay down.

At the other side, Wu Hai nevertheless fell asleep delightedly.

Having slept well all night long, Wu Hai went to Yuan Zhou's restaurant early in the morning as usual to wait for breakfast.

So did the novelist. Early in the morning, he rushed towards Yuan Zhou's restaurant. Nowadays, he basically did that every day and longed for the liquor.

The rules of Yuan Zhou's restaurant immediately made the novelist's schedule more regular. After all, he was unable to get up early and draw the lottery if he slept late. Sleeping late meant no liquor.

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# Chapter 427: Hidden Mission

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Sometimes, things would always have a turn for the better, at least to the novelist.

It was just like usual, outside the door of Yuan Zhou's restaurant. Many people were crowded around there to wait for Yuan Zhou's restaurant to be opened.

Of course, the two news broadcasters were indispensable among the crowd. They were Liu Zhiming and Pan Ning.

"Did you watch the football match last night?" Pan Ning uttered first.

Like other men, he enjoyed watching football matches, too. As soon as he spoke, it was about the football match.

"Certainly. Atlanta won." Liu Zhiming said smilingly.

Yes, both of them liked Atlanta Team. That's why they were good friends. Otherwise, they might come to blows for the sake of their favorite football team.

"Humph." The novelist felt both heartache and discontented when he thought of the liquor last night. Therefore, he couldn't help snorting coldly.

The voice of the novelist was a little low. Besides that, the customers were used to his straight face and thus didn't actually feel it strange. Only Wu Hai looked at the novelist with a smile when the two news broadcaster started to talk again at the other side.

"What a pity! Sigh..." Pan Ning suddenly sighed.

"It's truly a pity. Can anybody imagine that Liny surprisingly got into a car accident?" Liu Zhiming followed.

"Yeah. He went drunk driving right after winning the football match. It seems that we are unable to see the miracle of catching

the ball with his face anymore." Pan Ning had the same liking as Wu Hai. They both liked watching him catch the ball with his face.

"Huh? A car accident?" With a frown, the novelist took out the phone and started to look up the related news.

Once he entered the word 'Atlanta', all related news that appeared was about Liny's car accident. There were all kinds of versions and all types of speculations about it.

"So it is." The novelist read the news with a strange expression and then looked at Wu Hai.

Meanwhile, he couldn't help thinking inwardly, "Yes, you won my liquor. So what? I can let misfortune befall your favorite football player with my will."

That's right. The novelist indeed thought that way. The key point was that he instantly felt better by thinking that.

With the quirky exultation on his face, he stared at Wu Hai without even blinking.

"It's just a cup of liquor. Even if it's bamboo liquor, he doesn't need to reveal such an abnormal expression." Wu Hai, who had no idea of that and moved closer to Ling Hong while stroking his mustaches.

While it was bustling at the door of Yuan Zhou's restaurant, Yuan Zhou was nevertheless preparing the ingredients quietly on the other side of the door.

Of course, this word "quietly" didn't mean Yuan Zhou was quiet. It actually meant the outside noises basically couldn't pass into the restaurant because of the protection of the system. Therefore, Yuan Zhou could enjoy such quietness.

The system displayed, "Ding. Congratulations you have completed the hidden mission and become well-known throughout the city."

"What the damn is this?" Yuan Zhou was startled by the abrupt information of the system and gave a start.

The system displayed, "Host, you have completed the hidden mission."

"Hidden mission? What's that?" Yuan Zhou was instantly attracted and then asked curiously.

The system displayed, "The hidden mission means the mission isn't released by the system but is triggered and completed by the host himself."

"So is there any reward?" Yuan Zhou was a pragmatic person and he cared only about that.

The system displayed, "Yes. Host, you can check by yourself."

"The system is really generous." Yuan Zhou started to check it smilingly.

[Hidden mission] Within one year, the fame of the host can reach the extent of being well-known throughout the city under the condition that he doesn't publicize by yourself. (Completed) (Mission tips: The hidden mission means the mission that isn't released nor told to you by the system but is completed by the host himself.) [Mission reward] Classical Roast Goose (available to be received)

[Reward tips: Despite whatever others owns, we have the Classical Roast Goose.)

When Yuan Zhou realized the reward was roast goose, he was fairly delighted. But when he saw the tips, he didn't feel that good.

"System, is it really necessary to give tips that way?" Yuan Zhou supported his forehead.

"Hey. You think that if you don't speak, I won't know you are here? If you dare to give such tips, why don't you dare to answer me?" Yuan Zhou was made speechless by the capricious tips.

Without realizing that, he used the popular internet slang currently.

"Damn it. It doesn't suit me at all." Once he said that, Yuan Zhou found the slang didn't suit him.

He was anyhow a prince charming.

"Forget it. Receive the reward." Yuan Zhou sighed and received the reward first.

In his mind, a book-shaped object instantly turned into broken bits of light spots and flew into his deep mind.

Yuan Zhou stood for quite a while before he opened his eyes.

"It's really an interesting cooking method." Yuan Zhou went over the cooking method of the roast goose carefully.

The cooking method provided by the system was quite different from those that Yuan Zhou had ever seen before. That made Yuan Zhou quite happy.

"Coincidentally, I haven't served the western-style food set. I can serve this dish first." While stroking his forehead, Yuan Zhou immediately decided to serve this dish that made his customers would fight for later.

The breakfast time soon arrived. And Yuan Zhou's restaurant was also opened.

"Everybody, opening hours commence now. Please take turns and come on in for breakfast." It was Saturday today and Shen Min was on duty.

"I'm starving." The customers said while getting inside the restaurant.

"Exactly. Seldom do I get up so early on Saturday. Fortunately, I can eat it today," said a customer who entered the restaurant among the first ten people.

"Haha. This old man isn't late, either." It was the grandpa who

hadn't been here for long.

"Grandpa, you haven't been here for so long." Wu Hai nodded and greeted him.

"I went out to travel with my kids. Everything was going well except that I missed the dishes here." The grandpa clicked his tongue and then said while recollecting the taste in his memory.

"Then go into the restaurant." Wu Hai smiled and said.

"I have got to see what dish has Little Yuan served. Of course, the Soup Dumplings are still my favorite." The grandpa smiled and said.

"I'm providing Soup Dumplings today," said Yuan Zhou naturally. He also saw the grandpa.

"Good. When I was out, I missed the damn Soup Dumplings so much." The grandpa moved quickly and immediately got seated.

"Shen Min, carry them to him." Yuan Zhou took out the emerald green bamboo steamer and told Shen Min directly.

"Alright." Shen Min took the tray right away.

"I will take advantage of my seniority and eat it." The grandpa said smilingly.

"Soup Dumplings, get me one serving, please." Ling Hong said at once.

What a joke! In order to eat it, he had so much trouble at the beginning. Even so, he had eaten it for a few times only.

"Boss Yuan, you really need to prepare more Soup Dumplings." Ling Hong looked at Yuan Zhou with an earnest look.

"After all, we are not the birds that can eat their fill with a small soup dumpling." Ling Hong said after that.

"It's not small. This size is supposed to be the biggest among the ordinary soup dumplings." Yuan Zhou shook his head and then

said.

"You also say it's biggest among the ordinary ones. But Boss Yuan's craftsmanship is not ordinary, so he doesn't need to make a comparison with those ordinary ones." No wonder Ling Hong was a successful fop. He was even skilled at complimenting others.

"Tsk-tsk. This young man really has a nice eloquence," said the grandpa while savoring the delicacy leisurely.

"It's indeed good." Wu Hai also managed to find some time to nod.

"No need. I think it's good this way." Yuan Zhou also received the compliment naturally and then refused Ling Hong's proposal.

Up until now, the most complicated and most expensive dish was about to appear in Yuan Zhou's restaurant.

## Chapter 428: Elaborate Roast Goose

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"Teacher, teacher, can you take me as your disciple today?" Wu Hong's voice passed to Yuan Zhou from a distance and was extraordinarily loud.

Yuan Zhou couldn't help but want to support his forehead. Thinking of his aloof prince charming figure that he had shaped with difficulty, however, he managed to refrain himself from doing that.

Instead, he just knitted his brows severely.

"Little Master Yuan, you have taken a disciple?" The grandpa looked at Wu Hong who ran into the restaurant rashly and asked in surprise.

"Haha. Oh, yes. Boss Yuan, your little disciple came again," said Wu Hai. Obviously, he knew that Yuan Zhou didn't like trouble, but still showed no mercy towards him.

"Don't say that. Wouldn't that waste our time if Boss Yuan suddenly agrees to his request?" Ling Hong was a little more conscientious than Wu Hai, although he said that also for food.

"No, I have no intention of taking anyone as my disciple." Yuan Zhou uttered and clarified seriously.

"Besides, there are not many people qualified to call me teacher, which includes you." Yuan Zhou said that quite seriously.

"Teacher..." Wu Hong got a little embarrassed and angry, but he still wanted to say something.

Nevertheless, Yuan Zhou knitted his brows and interrupted him, "I'm sorry. I think I have made myself understood quite well yesterday. I have no intention of taking a disciple at the moment."

"Teacher, you also say you won't take anyone at the moment. Perhaps, you'll have the intention later." Wu Hong wasn't swayed

by Yuan Zhou's refusal at all and he still insisted.

"Now is the opening hours of this restaurant. If you want to eat, please go to line up. If you don't, please leave." Having paid no attention to Wu Hong's words, Yuan Zhou straightforwardly started to drive him away.

"Young man, you can't call him teacher even if he has the thought of taking a disciple," said the grandpa meaningfully before Yuan Zhou spoke.

"Who are you?" Wu Hong didn't have any other meaning in asking that. He was just curious.

"It doesn't matter whom I am. I'm just a customer, but you have bothered me." The grandpa burst into laughter.

"Oh. Yuan Zhou, what do you think?" Upon hearing the grandpa was merely a customer, Wu Hong didn't say anything else. He turned his head and looked at Yuan Zhou expectantly.

"Not mentioning anything else, why do you still address Boss Yuan disrespectfully by name since you are here to acknowledge him as your teacher?" Ling Hong waved his hand and interrupted Wu Hong again.

"I can't address him by name?" Wu Hong revealed a puzzled look.

"Of course you can't. Don't ask me about the reason. Just think about it on your own." Ling Hong answered him bluntly.

"Are you going to eat here?" Seeing Wu Hong flush but still stay in the restaurant, Shen Min went up and asked.

Yuan Zhou was relieved silently. After all, it was fairly tiring to talk with someone that wouldn't listen to your explanations at all.

"No, no, no. I have eaten breakfast." Wu Hong shook his head.

"I'm sorry. Our restaurant is in the middle of running its business and it's a little crowded inside." Shen Min said with a euphemistical manner.



"No problem. I'll wait outside." Wu Hong didn't give up. He clenched his fist and said earnestly.

"Thank you, sir." Shen Min answered courteously.

"Boss Yuan seems to be in big trouble." Ling Hong shook his head.

"Indeed." The grandpa nodded his head approvingly.

"Never mind. I really never intended to take a disciple and even if I'll take one, he's not my choice." Yuan Zhou said earnestly.

With his resolute attitude, Yuan Zhou made his customers feel relieved.

Meanwhile, Yuan Zhou whispered secretly in his mind, "He has absolutely no discernment and is simply far worse than me."

Once the breakfast time ended, Yuan Zhou shut the door after a sound of "Hua La". He totally ignored Wu Hong who was prepared to greet him.

"I'm going to concentrate on the Roast Goose carefully today." Yuan Zhou clapped his hands and said to himself.

Naturally, the door blocked the sight of those people outside.

"He surprisingly shut the door and went to sleep so quickly." Wu Hong put down his raised hand and said helplessly.

"Shall we go, my dear nephew?" His aunt, Wu Qian, appeared and said to Wu Hong.

"Ok. I'll come by again at noon." Wu Hong said energetically.

"Ok. Accompany me to wander around." Wu Qian dragged Wu Hong away.

At the other side, Yuan Zhou started to go upstairs and wash up in preparation for cooking the Roast Goose.

Wiping his face, cleaning the hands, and changing the clothes. Yuan Zhou finished all the preparatory work solemnly before he went downstairs.

After all, the cooking method of the Roast Goose was quite complicated and very difficult. Doing these actions were to calm him down.

Just like what those top martial artists did before the decisive battle. Everything was for bringing his best mental state into play.

"The first Guangdong cuisine of my restaurant." Yuan Zhou breathed out.

"Wait. System, do I need to kill the goose by myself this time?" Yuan Zhou suddenly asked that before he opened the cabinet.

The system displayed, "No need. The system has provided the defeathered goose."

"Great." After saying that, Yuan Zhou immediately pulled the door of the cabinet open.

Once the door was open, a trace of coolness came out from inside.

"It's surprisingly a freezer." Yuan Zhou took out a goose from inside expressionlessly.

Yuan Zhou had already been accustomed to the advanced technology of the system.

"Sometimes, I really feel I'm living in a space filled with technology from the future." After a while, Yuan Zhou's ridiculing voice passed from his face mask.

The system displayed, "The renovation provided by the system is absolute."

Yuan Zhou didn't know why, but he always felt there was a prideful feeling from the ice cold words.

Besides observing the ingredients, Yuan Zhou also got used to smelling, looking and touching them in sequence.

"Um. It seems the goose hasn't been killed for more than half an hour. The abdomen is still warm and the color is also very beautiful." Yuan Zhou was observing the naked goose on the

chopping board silently.

The system displayed, "Yes. The goose was killed at 9:05 a.m. It only takes 10 minutes from killing to cleaning the feathers."

"It's really as expected." Yuan Zhou took a look at the clock on the wall. It was barely 9:20.

While Yuan Zhou was distinguishing the flesh of goose at his end, Ling Hong suddenly thought of the girl that came from the school for the deaf and mute.

The answer given by the shy man that day was in accordance with Ling Hong's expectation but also contrary to his expectations.

Not long after he asked the shy man that day, the girl came to line up. Just as usual, the shy man walked quickly to the back of the girl and looked at her silently, yet not preparing to greet her voluntarily.

When they entered the restaurant, however, he quickly took a seat next to the girl. He moved really really quickly.

Occasionally, he talked as if he was muttering to himself, but once the girl took a glimpse at him, he became quite delighted with a blush on his face.

"I happen to be free now. Let me go have a look." Ling Hong slightly turned the steering wheel and drove to that street.

Ling Hong was just curious if they would end up as a couple in the end. However, he would never reveal the girl's problem.

"A shy man who's eager for the physical health and a mute girl who's kind and optimistic. Cupid is really interesting." Ling Hong tittered and thought that. Then he changed direction and drove back to his company at the next crossing.

"I would be seen as abnormal if I go watch her this way. Forget it." Ling Hong put on the sunglasses in a posturing way and drove across the street fast.

Naturally, Yuan Zhou had no idea of that as he was also in shock.

"Did you say it is the Eastern Zhejiang White Goose?" Yuan Zhou picked the goose up and observed it carefully.

"As far as I know, the raising history of the Eastern Zhenjiang White Goose was as long as 1600 years, isn't it?" Yuan Zhou had an impressive memory now. Once the breed was confirmed, he thought of the related information immediately.

"But this goose doesn't seem to be from Xiangshan or Fenghua. Instead, it's seemingly from Shaoxing." Yuan Zhou said positively.

The ingredients provided by the system was always top-notch. Although Yuan Zhou likewise felt suspicious sometimes, it broadened his scope of knowledge invisibly.

The system displayed, "The breed provided by the system is the Eastern Zhejiang White Goose that is native to Shaoxing. The beak, shin, and web of the goose are all bright orange during their infant stage while those turn reddish orange when it's grown up. Its feet are jade-white color; the color of its caruncle is a little lighter than that of its beak; its eyelids are golden yellow and the colors are bright and beautiful."

"It likes drinking Shaoxing yellow rice wine."

"Pigs that eat watermelon and geese that drink wine..." Upon reading that, Yuan Zhou only wanted to laugh bitterly.

# Chapter 429: Yuan Zhou's First Failure (First)

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"Needless to say, you allow me to drink the Shaoxing yellow rice wine, will you?" Yuan Zhou was actually quite eager to try the wine.

After all, Shaoxing yellow rice wine was really famous.

"According to you, Shaoxing yellow rice wine has already been listed as a tribute to the Emperor as early as the Southern and Northern Dynasties and there are all kinds of poems of praise about it. Among the kinds of Shaoxin yellow rice wine, Huadiao Wine is well-known as the Maiden Rose. What kind of Shaoxing wine do you feed the geese with?" Yuan Zhou asked curiously.

The system displayed, "An important sensory standard to judge the quality of Shaoxing wine is if the viscosity is thick. At the very beginning, Huadiao Wine specially stands for the aged Shaoxin wine."

"In ancient times, there was a custom in Shaoxing. After the birth of their daughter, the parents would seal the earthen jars filled with Shaoxing wine for dowry in the future and put them underground. When their daughter gets married, they will take out the sealed Shaoxing wine and sculpt all kinds of colorful flower and bird patterns on the surface of the earthen jar. Then the wine would follow their daughter to her husband's as the dowry. So, it was called Huadiao Wine (meaning 'flower carving') and was also known as the Daughter's Wine. In the end, people specially called the aged Shaoxing wine as Huadiao Wine."

"So that's why you say the goose drinks the aged Shaoxing wine!" Yuan Zhou couldn't help turning over the stomach of the goose.

He was probably checking if there was still wine in the stomach of the geese, as he had only heard of this kind of good wine.

Nowadays, there were lots of regional protection policies. In other words, it was very difficult to buy the authentic yellow rice wine in other places, let alone quality wine.

Take Maotai Wine for example, as far as Yuan Zhou knew, it could be produced nowhere except in Moutai County where the Moutai Wine was originally produced.

It was rumored that the Japanese scientists had once stolen the formula of the Maotai Wine and the soil of the wine cellar in order to develop the wine on their own, but eventually failed.

It was just because the bacteria in the soil could not adapt to the environment over there and hence died.

So Yuan Zhou would love to have a taste of the Shaoxing yellow rice wine and try it.

The system displayed, "Yes, The goose is selected from those which has just reached 3500 grams. Besides, it's fed with quality rice every day."

"As the host, I strongly demand such a diet every day," said Yuan Zhou with a solemn look.

"And I think it's quite a reasonable demand." Yuan Zhou thought for a while and added.

The system displayed, "Host, please work hard to level up. Such a diet will be available in the future."

"I'm telling you that a cook's mood is very important. If I can't eat nice food, I will feel bad, then how can I make a delicious meal?" Yuan Zhou had habitually thought that the system would reject him again and thus said a lot. Then, he discovered it seemed to be different from what he expected this time.

"You surprisingly have a different answer! Where's your usual pattern? I'm not used to the sudden change." Yuan Zhou supported his forehead and revealed a helpless look.

Only after Yuan Zhou said that did he carefully look at the answer that the system had just answered.

Upon seeing that, Yuan Zhou became delighted and then asked immediately, "You mean it's available after I level up? Then what level will it be?"

The system fell silent and returned to the state of not answering him again.

"Again! You just fall silent at the crucial moments." Yuan Zhou was made speechless by that.

Then, Yuan Zhou shrugged and paid no more attention to the system. Instead, he began to process the flesh of the goose.

Generally speaking, the feet and wing tips of the goose would be chopped off after it had been processed, but Yuan Zhou didn't do that way.

"It's better to clean and blow the air, first." Yuan Zhou picked up the goose and directly began to clean it.

"Hua Hua", the sound of water flowing came from Yuan Zhou's restaurant.

There was only an opening about 1 inch long at the abdomen of the goose provided by the system. The viscera was just taken from the small opening, which could guarantee the goose was intact to the maximum extent.

Afterwards, Yuan Zhou washed the abdominal cavity directly with the cool May rainwater, provided by the system naturally.

In a little while, the goose would be grilled with the charcoal fire. The cold rainwater couldn't be used and nor could the ice water that was freezing. Although the dew tasted sweet, it was also cold and thus unsuitable.

Only the May rainwater that tasted moderate with slight sweetness was the best option to wash the goose.

Not until the blood was all washed away did Yuan Zhou directly set up the goose to drain moisture.

While draining the water, Yuan Zhou wiped the surface of the goose gently with an absorbent cotton cloth.

"Do I need to blow it by myself? Since I am eating it myself." Yuan Zhou seemed to be not only asking the system, but also talking to himself.

Naturally, he was talking about the matter of blowing on the goose.

The Roast Goose must be blown. Then, the air would enter between the subcutaneous fat and connective tissue slowly, making the entire goose swell.

Just when Yuan Zhou was hesitating, the system suddenly appeared.

The system displayed, "The chip blower provided by the system is in the cabinet."

"Alright." Yuan Zhou shrugged and then he took it out and prepared to blow.

He raised the head of the goose, stuck the air nozzle into its neck cavity through the cut on the neck, holding the neck and the air nozzle together tightly with his left hand, then pressed the chip blower with his right hand, making the air go into the body of the goose slowly.

"Hu Hu", as the air was pressed into the body of the goose, its originally flat body began to bulge slowly. Only when it expended to 80% of its original size did Yuan Zhou stop.

At that time, the water in the large pot was already bubbling and rolling.

While taking the goose with one hand and a spoon with the other, Yuan Zhou began to heat the goose with the boiling water.



After the body of the goose adapted to the temperature slowly, it would be put into the large pot for blanching.

During the process, Yuan Zhou tried his best not to touch the breast of the goose in case it left a dent, which would damage the overall image of the goose.

As the goose was being heated, the scent of the goose and the faint smell of the wine filled the air.

"It smells so good. No wonder it's a goose that drinks wine." Yuan Zhou sighed with emotion.

However, Yuan Zhou noticed another thing immediately.

"System, is the air from Chengdu? Don't forget there is haze here in Chengdu." Yuan Zhou started to ask the system once he got some time.

The system displayed, "The air comes from Mount Wellington in Tasmania Island which is known as the Heart of the World."

"It's near the South Pole, but is not bordering it. This land also has the title of End of the World. The air provided to you is taken from the clean and pollution-free air over there at 10 degrees in the winter. It has a slight smell of cold snow and is suitable to inflate the goose."

"If I know that earlier, I should have taken a sip of the air to see if I will get drunk due to its quality." Yuan Zhou ridiculed directly.

A goose that drank aged Huadiao Wine and breathed oxygen from the Mount Wellington. Sigh. This really made Yuan Zhou feel that he was living a life far inferior to a goose.

The only way to overtake the goose was to level up with great effort.

Fortunately, the goose was well boiled at that moment. Therefore, Yuan Zhou stopped talking to the system and began to concentrate on processing the goose.

Yuan Zhou carried out the scalding goose with the clip and began to pour cold water on it. After the process of expanding with heat and contracting with cold, the skin of the goose would become crisp and tender and free from any underlying bad smell.

After the cold water was poured on it and the goose didn't continue emitting steam anymore, Yuan Zhou began to stuff flavorings into the goose's belly and brushed the home-made embrittlement water on the skin.

Yuan Zhou stuffed the flavorings into the goose quickly and concisely with a porcelain spoon one spoonful after another.

After stuffing, he began to brush the embrittlement water on it again. The embrittlement water must be brushed on the goose evenly. Otherwise, the skin color of the roasted goose wouldn't be consistent, which would affect its beauty.

"Now, there is nothing left except the drying." Yuan Zhou sewed the belly of the goose to pack the flavorings inside and then hung the goose at the drying place.

Only after drying and then roasting could the goose flesh have the perfect effect of luster and smoothness. Because of that, Yuan Zhou spent much time on it and wasn't stingy at all.

"The Roast Goose should be the dish with the most procedures." Yuan Zhou looked at the goose that he had barely finished half of all procedures and felt a little proud.

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# Chapter 430: Yuan Zhou's First Failure (Second)

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"I'll eat the goose for dinner today." Yuan Zhou looked at the roast goose with dry skin and talked to himself with satisfaction.

Speaking of which, the system had prepared a small hanging stove in the kitchen. Want to know how small it was? The size was only enough to hang one goose at a time.

Yuan Zhou habitually reached out his hand and knocked on the outer wall of the oven, which made a light sound of "Peng Peng".

"Is this an earthen jar?" Yuan Zhou had thought the oven might be something made with bricks and mud, or an underground deep well.

After all, that was how the Deep Well Roast Goose used to be prepared formerly.

Besides, Yuan Zhou wouldn't be surprised at all even if the system built a deep well to roast the goose based on its powerful capability.

The system displayed, "Yes. It's made of pottery clay mixed with quartz, feldspar, clay soil, etc. Through the traditional method of charcoal burning, the raw clay turned into an earthen jar embryo, which then turns into a pottery jar embryo with the same method. After it's glazed, the pottery jar embryo will enter the oven and be fired again until it turns into the ceramic pot."

"The ceramic jar has the characteristics of good air permeability and absorbability as well as uniform heat transfer and slow heat dissipation, etc. Therefore, it's extremely suitable to act as an oven."

"Of course, what the system has provided is the ancient sintering method. With the modern method, it will be deformed or crack easily."

"You are showing off your broad knowledge again in front of me." While ridiculing the system, Yuan Zhou read the knowledge provided by the system seriously.

Naturally, he didn't forget to whisper primly, "The system shows off his knowledge while Wu Zhou shows off his intimacy with his girlfriend in front of me. What a fulfilling life I have got!"

"The goose tail pin is also ceramic, and the goose hook was ceramic, too." Yuan Zhou picked up the tail pin made into black-iron color and said helplessly.

Originally, Yuan Zhou thought it was made of iron when he saw the metallic tail pin. Never had he expected the system was so crazy. The pig iron had an underlying smell while the processed iron didn't. Of course, it was most likely to be the alloy, but the effect would not be as good as the ceramic pin.

Yuan Zhou sealed the goose tail swiftly and then locked the fragrance inside quickly.

He picked up the meat hook and directly dug into the abdominal cavity of the goose from the lower part. Then, he turned its head around and clipped its neck between the meat hook so as to clamp the neck, avoiding air leakage. During this process, Yuan Zhou checked the goose carefully and found there wasn't any sign of the oil coming out of the skin.

That meant the goose was well processed early on. Only then did Yuan Zhou hang the whole goose at the side and start to light the fire for pre-heating.

Before lighting, Yuan Zhou hesitated for a while. After all, he wasn't holding an ordinary piece of wood in his hand.

"System, are you sure you won't be beaten to death if you roast a goose with the spear wood?" Yuan Zhou felt heartache while holding the wood.

The system displayed, "The 4-seasonal occasions and [Theory of](#)

[Five Elements](#) are to be considered prior to roasting the goose with fire. Now is the early winter and in the four season, winter belongs to black according to the Theory of Five Element. For the spear wood, it has distinct features. The sapwood is between white (with yellowish-brown or slate gray) to light reddish brown while its heartwood is black."

"The black heartwood doesn't have any special smell and hence is quite suitable for roasting the goose. Only in that way can we not violate the laws of nature and only in that way can we help people to keep fit and prevent diseases."

"Besides, it's you who is going to roast the goose with the spear wood."

"Wow!!! 4-seasonal occasions and Theory of Five Elements. What a knowledgeable system you are!" Yuan Zhou sighed with emotion and said. Then, he found the sentence that appeared in his mind at last.

"Wait, you mean I'm the one who is going to light the fire and I'm the one that will be beaten if necessary, don't you?" Yuan Zhou got surprised at once.

Regarding Yuan Zhou's questioning, the system had no response.

"System, you are terrible. You provide the materials, so you are to blame. I'm just a little chef who works for the Master Chef." While lighting the fire, Yuan Zhou tried to evade his responsibility.

"No wonder it's called hardwood. It's really difficult to light a fire using it." Yuan Zhou murmured.

Luckily, Yuan Zhou lit the hardwood quickly after the initial ignition stage. After that, the temperature began to rise.

Because the stove was small and the heating speed was slow, it reached the optimum temperature of 250 degrees very soon. At that time, Yuan Zhou put on heatproof gloves and quickly hung the raw goose into the oven.

Then, he shut the furnace cover with a "Peng" sound and began to roast it.

The continuous series of actions were done by Yuan Zhou attentively. His actions were both concise and swift.

Because the oven was very small, it was very easy to hang the goose to the middle line of the oven. As a result, Yuan Zhou also got relieved.

"Fortunately, it's at a constant temperature in my restaurant. Otherwise, I'll have to increase the temperature by two degrees to roast the goose well on such a cold day." Yuan Zhou felt the difference between the temperature in and out of the restaurant at the back door.

"Hua Hua", Yuan Zhou turned on the tap and began to wash his hands carefully.

Meanwhile, he began to check the time carefully from time to time, even if the time he had predicted was actually the same as the time on the clock. Every time Yuan Zhou cooked a new dish for the first time, however, he followed the prescribed order step by step like a beginner.

Innovation is one thing, but Yuan Zhou followed the established plan strictly for every step of the process.

"Huh? Is the picture askew?" After Yuan Zhou checked the time, he suddenly noticed the painting hanging on the ceiling.

Yuan Zhou tried to ignore it but in the end, he still couldn't help running up the stairs.

He took out an extremely long ruler from the second floor and came down.

"Pa", Yuan Zhou pressed the switch of the ladder used to pick the Jinling grass and then directly rose to the ceiling.

He swung the long ruler from one side to the other until the four

lines of the painting were parallel to the four lines of the ceiling. Only then did Yuan Zhou stop.

"It looks better and more comfortable now." Yuan Zhou looked up at the picture that returned to the correct position with satisfaction.

If Wu Hai were here, however, he would probably ridicule Yuan Zhou directly, "Boss Yuan is really a damned OCD victim."

After all, Wu Hai was ordered around by Yuan Zhou when he was hanging the painting.

With Yuan Zhou's extraordinarily sharp eyes, even a deviation of 1cm or 0.5cm was enormous. Therefore, Wu Hai disliked Yuan Zhou's OCD, even if he himself was a perfectionist that wasn't any better than Yuan Zhou.

"Dong Dong Dong", Yuan Zhou ran upstairs again, put away the ruler, and then returned to the water tank.

"It's really perfect timing. There are still five minutes left for me to wash my hands." Yuan Zhou breathed out and smiled contentedly.

Then, Yuan Zhou demonstrated the most standard method of hand washing. He washed for no less than five minutes and then wiped them dry.

"Ding", the alarm clock set by Yuan Zhou rang, too.

Yuan Zhou immediately put on the heatproof gloves and took out the roast goose directly and gently removed the tail pin. An opening about an egg size was revealed in the end.

"The inside of the goose is so tender that it might be damaged by sharp objects, so it can only be done by hand." Yuan Zhou took a deep breath and directly reached out his hand.

Yuan Zhou had been a mature chef that mastered extraordinary culinary skills. Even a senior chef like Master Cheng also tried to

study the craftsmanship from him.

The youngest Michelin Three-Star Chef, Chu Xiao, also felt pressure after he witnessed the talent and craftsmanship of Yuanzhou. But now, Yuan Zhou had misjudged one thing.

Having just been roasted well, the goose was unbearably hot for people to touch, especially the inside of its belly.

"Sh\*t!" The rude word immediately rushed out of his face mask.

Yuan Zhou was burned just when he reached his fingers into the belly of the goose and tried to get the green plum out.

There appeared two bright and eye-catching blisters on Yuan Zhou's hands.

Five Elements are metal, wood, water, fire and earth held by the Chinese ancients to compose the physical universe and later used in physiological and pathological phenomena.



# Chapter 431: The System's Routine

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"Hiss... I didn't expect it to be so hot." Yuan Zhou frowned tightly.

The plum that had just been clamped out was stuck at the opening and revealed its greenish yellow flesh.

The blisters on his hands were hurting him painfully.

Yuan Zhou closed his eyes and began to call to mind the information he had received carefully.

The information offered by the system was from the masters of meat roasting. Apart from the cooking methods, there were also their understandings and conclusions. Then, Yuan Zhou selected an optimum one from these ideal methods.

As a matter of fact, Roast Goose is relatively greasy. Speaking of which, the Beijing Roast Duck naturally couldn't be neglected.

"The Beijing Roast Duck that I'll make in the future can't be too greasy, but for now, I have to overcome this problem first." Yuan Zhou knitted his brows and looked at the blisters.

He could neither use medicine nor touch the roast goose now as it was too hot.

At the very beginning, people selected geese with 30% lean and 70% fat to make the Roast Goose. These kinds of geese tasted fat and tender as well as delicious and fragrant after being roasted. For now, however, people preferred healthy delicacies compared to greasy ones.

Just like how a lot of people felt the roast duck didn't taste as good as before. However, they didn't know how it was like a long time ago.

If one wanted to entertain others with the roast duck, the guest had to make the reservation three months in advance and pay

early at that time in order to feed the goose selected by the customer. Then, the goose would definitely be fed until it was big and fat before the final day came. As people had not many chances to eat meat or fish at that time, the roast duck prepared in that circumstances was naturally plump and sweet as well as delicious and fantastic.

As the living standards improved, people had started eating meat or fish far too frequently in the recent years. Therefore, there was no need for food that was too greasy. Hence, Yuan Zhou stuffed the sour plum into the roast goose.

The green plum had just been pickled and each of them was perfectly round, without any fractures on the surface.

The plums that had just been pickled tasted sour more than sweet. The fruit acid was sealed in the belly of the goose and slowly diffused into the inside of the flesh. Then, it infiltrated directly through the bones into the subcutaneous fat that had been blown.

That way, the delicate fragrance and sourness of the green plum would be scattered throughout the inside of the goose. Halfway through roasting, however, the plums must be taken out and replaced with gravy to allow the flavor to seep into the flesh.

The green plums tend to melt into the flesh of the goose if roasted too long and would carry some bitterness, so Yuan Zhou must take them out before that happened.

Due to that, Yuan Zhou couldn't clamp it out using hard objects. He could not let the gravy flow out nor destroy the pulp but allowed the plum to stay in the belly of the goose. That was also the cause of Yuan Zhou being burned.

"Let me take the remaining ones first. Hiss..." said Yuan Zhou. After that, he directly reached out his hand, but the goose that didn't cool down much scaled him again.

Plus, with the swelling blisters, the feeling was really unbearable.

"Hiss... It's really hot goose meat." While Yuan Zhou was complaining to divert his attention from the great pain, he tried his best to take the green plum out as soon as possible.

However, the blisters on his hand hindered the performance of Yuan Zhou. During the process, four green plums were slightly damaged and all of them were pinched out by Yuan Zhou as it was truly hot.

Right after that, Yuan Zhou picked up the ceramic scissors and immediately cut off the wings and claws with a sound "Ka Ca Ka Ca" so that they wouldn't be scorched and produce the bitter taste.

"Hua La", Yuan Zhou quickly poured the brine into the belly and then hung it up again to continue roasting.

"Hoo..." Yuan Zhou looked at the oven cover that was shut again and felt relieved.

"I used four minutes more than the time limit and broke three green plums. No wonder it's the ideal cooking method, it's so difficult." Yuan Zhou looked at the wound on his hand and sighed slightly.

It was the first failure that Yuan Zhou had encountered since he owned the system. Even the eccentric royal chef gave the cooking method of the signature dish to him in the end.

"Interesting. It's indeed awesome." Yuan Zhou sat down and looked at his hands in a daze.

In the beginning, Yuan Zhou had thought he could manage to get the green plums out of the goose within three minutes after it was taken out of the oven and then hang the goose up again. Naturally, he knew the roast goose would be scalding, but his sculpting skills were already at the level of a grandmaster.

That meant he could move his hands quickly and wouldn't be so easily burned. Therefore, Yuan Zhou selected the perfect cooking method with confidence.

As a severe OCD victim that must align everything with the ceiling, he would certainly pursue the perfect cooking method.

"Hua La". Fiddled by Yuan Zhou in the plate, the green plums emitted some sound.

"It seems that the initial stage and later stage are easier to get through while the middle stage is a little hard." Yuan Zhou observed the green plums carefully.

It was indeed so. At first, he hadn't adapted to such a high temperature, but he managed to hold on with his willpower. In the middle stage, however, the goose became too hot and thus four green plums were broken. The latter stage was nevertheless easier because he was numb to being burned.

"Speaking of which, do you have any advanced burn ointment, system?" Yuan Zhou shook his scalded hands and asked sincerely.

The system displayed, "No."

"How merciless you are!" There were no such medicines the last time when he was injured and naturally, there wasn't any this time, either. Therefore, Yuan Zhou just asked about that casually.

The system displayed, "Friendly tip: you can soak the wounded part in cold water for half an hour first. Generally speaking, the earlier you soak the wounded part in cold water and the lower the temperature is, the better the effect is. However, the temperature can't be lower than 5 degrees in order to avoid frostbite. But if the wounded part has bubbled and broken, you can't soak it in the water for fear of infection. Host, you can soak your hands and the cold water has been provided."

"You can use the light brine to wipe your wounded part gently for antiphlogosis. Besides, according to the ancient medical books, the Chinese gromwell ointment can be used to cure burns. So is the Jingwanhong oil and natural mink oil. Also, you can wipe the wounded part with Qiu You to treatment."

"Apart from that, you can also cover your injuries with the egg white blended evenly with cooked honey for antiphlogosis and analgesia. You can use whatever you like."

"Tsk--tsk. I didn't expect that you surprisingly have the same functions as Baidu. Thank you." Yuan Zhou ridiculed the system while soaking his hands in the cold water.

However, the system didn't answer him at all. Only the words that appeared in his mind was made bold and became more conspicuous

"Use the rock honey and the eggs laid by hens that eat better even than the Wagyu cows to apply to on the burn? It's really a luxurious home-made scald ointment!" Yuan Zhou broke eggs while laughing at himself.

So it was. After all, it was the truth that the hens ate better than Yuan Zhou.

Yuan Zhou was never idle when he stayed with the system. After all, he was only afraid of dealing with interpersonal relations and was not autistic. Therefore, he started to think about taking advantage of the system again.

"System, look at me. I'm burned, so can you not charge me the cost of the eggs and honey?" Yuan Zhou asked in a seemingly careless manner while applying the medicine to his own wounds gently.

The system displayed, "Host, you are now at level four. We split the cost 50/50."

"No, no, no. This is the injury caused during working hours, which should be called an occupational injury. So it is mine." Yuan Zhou tried to cheat it primly.

The system displayed, "Host, please work hard to level up."

"Ho Ho. It's again like that. When can we exactly have a pleasant conversation?" Yuan Zhou felt rather helpless after he failed.

When he opened the cash box, he really found that he had lost money.

"You move so quickly." Yuan Zhou closed the cash box and spoke no more.

Instead, he looked at the roast goose in the oven.

As it wasn't in the business time, Yuan Zhou's restaurant naturally didn't prevent the scent from leaking out. Immediately, it was surrounded by a crowd of people.

"What a coincidence! I just came back and there's a new dish, again. It smells so nice." The grandpa stood at the door with his wife and appeared quite happy.

"It's indeed a new smell that we have never eaten before." Ma Zhida also affirmed that.

"Waiting to eat. It must be a meat dish." Wu Hai uttered a few words.

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# Chapter 432: The Fascination of the Roast Goose

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"I think it might be a refreshing dish. After all, Boss Yuan is unpredictable." Man Man also started to guess.

"Isn't that the fragrance of Roast Goose?" Being more familiar with the taste, Ling Hong figured it out immediately.

"We all know that. We are just guessing what taste it would be since it's cooked by Boss Yuan." Jiang Changxi showed a supercilious look to Ling Hong.

"That's right." Man Man nodded her head.

"Do you think you can figure out the taste of Boss Yuan's dishes just by thinking?" Ling Hong rolled his eyes.

"Don't you think that Boss Yuan is eating alone?" Wu Zhou asked weakly.

"Don't say it out. I will be unable to control myself from disassembling the door." Man Man clenched her fist and said earnestly.

"Boss Yuan, Boss Yuan, open the door. Time for business hours." Wu Hai directly carried out Man Man's thought.

"Young people are all in a hurry nowadays. They don't even have good patience." The grandpa said seriously.

"Oh, yeah. Then why are you dragging me forward so quickly?" The grandma did well in counteracting his words.

"Cough-cough. I just don't want you to get hurt in the crowd." The grandpa looked carefully at the grandma and said.

"Come on. Don't lie to me. Let's just move forward honestly so that we can eat it earlier." The grandma was very honest and frank.

Wu Hai's loud knock at the door didn't affect Yuan Zhou at all. After all, anything provided by the system was top level.

Even if Yuan Zhou had just failed in taking out the green plums, the following procedures could never be ignored.

When Yuan Zhou did his homework during his childhood, he always erased the wrong characters after completely writing them even if he had found the error earlier.

Therefore, Yuan Zhou likewise did the following procedures according to the perfect cooking method without stopping.

The most important factor to roast the goose in the ceramic jar was the temperature control. Due to the slow heat dissipation and fast heating rate of the ceramic jar, it was quite difficult to master the temperature concisely. If something went wrong, the goose would become black from head to foot.

"It's almost done." Yuan Zhou said affirmatively when he heard the slight sound of the oil cracking and the wood burning.

He put on the heatproof gloves and uncovered the roasting oven after a sound of "Hu La".

"Judging from the smell, everything is good." Yuan Zhou smelled the crisp and fragrant taste of the roast goose and said while frowning.

Ever since his hand was scalded, Yuan Zhou had been knitting his brows and never felt relieved.

He reached out his hands to take the roast goose out. Then, the fragrance of the roast goose filled the air.

Obviously, the system could have shielded the sound, but it didn't, presumably because of its evil personality. People waiting outside became more helpless when they smelled the fragrance.

"Growling..." The stomach of Jiang Changxi was protesting.

"Sister Jiang, your stomach..." Man Man took the sleeve of Jiang



Changxi and said.

"Damn it. It's all Yuan Zhou's fault. He often cooks delicious dishes in his restaurant, but doesn't sell it to us. Sigh. I'm starving." Who was Jiang Changxi? She was the three-lost woman and totally wasn't embarrassed at all. She even straightforwardly complained Yuan Zhou.

"Me, too. I'm also very hungry." Man Man covered her stomach and revealed a bemoaning expression.

"What exactly is the little Boss Yuan cooking? It's so fragrant. This old man is almost drooling." The grandpa tried to look into the restaurant anxiously.

"Boss Yuan, it's immoral to do so. Please open the door quickly. Even if we can't eat, we can enjoy looking at it." While patting on the door, Wu Hai said with a euphemistic tone.

"Little Min, do you have the key? We can just have a look at what your boss is cooking at the door and won't go inside." Ling Hong looked at Shen Min kindly with a smile on his face.

"No, I don't, Mr. Ling." Shen Min swallowed her saliva and said nervously.

"Oh. How long do we have to wait?" Ling Hong was originally very handsome. The melancholy way he talked had great effect toward such girls like Shen Min.

"Ten minutes. After that, my boss will open the door." Shen Min checked the time carefully and then said.

"Um. Thanks, Min Min." Ling Hong felt rather helpless inwardly.

He certainly knew there were still ten minutes left. Many customers lining up out there were all counting their fingers to wait for business hours to commence.

On the contrary, Yuan Zhou was observing the roast goose inside.

The roast goose was well done once it became golden red from

head to foot, with its eyes slightly protruded, the crack appeared in the middle of the body surface and the whole weight became lighter.

The one held by Yuan Zhou in his hand right now completely met this standard.

"It also looks good on the surface." Yuan Zhou studied the failed roast goose step by step.

It could be considered to be the summary of the experience he had got from the failure.

Yuan Zhou removed the meat hook and tail pin quickly. The gravy inside emitted a light sound of "Hua La".

After that, he picked up the roast goose immediately and poured the gravy in the belly out into a small bowl painted with green leaves.

The small and exquisite white porcelain bowl was filled with brownish red gravy, over which the oil droplets emitted slight heat. It smelled so fragrant and palatable that it made people unable to resist it and couldn't help wanting to taste it.

Following that, Yuan Zhou took out the miracle kitchen knife and cut the roast goose into several pieces quickly when it was still hot.

Then, he moved the roast goose onto a large plate with the kitchen knife.

The whole plate looked like a goose. After the cut roast goose was laid inside, the goose seemed to be sitting on another goose with its forehead held up in the front of the plate. On the whole, it appeared fairly graceful.

With a sound of "Hua La", Yuan Zhou poured the gravy straightforwardly onto the roast goose.

The touch of the boiling hot gravy and the crisp skin emitted a

melodious sound of "Zi Zi", which stimulated stronger fragrance.

"The skin is smooth and glossy and looks like it has been brushed with honey. Perfect." Yuan Zhou looked at the finished product and said objectively.

"There's only the taste left for me to try now." Yuan Zhou picked up his own chopsticks and prepared to eat.

After all, there were only a few minutes left before he opened the door.

He picked up a piece of the roast goose and directly stuffed it into his mouth without any hesitation.

Once the roast goose entered his mouth, however, Yuan Zhou knitted his brows.

"It's indeed so." Yuan Zhou gulped down the meat in his mouth and said with an expected manner.

As the green plums had their skin broken, the intrinsic astringency and bitterness contained in them originally suddenly burst out and then went into the goose meat. For that little amount of offensive taste, others naturally couldn't distinguish it, but Yuan Zhou could.

Therefore, Yuan Zhou believed his first Roast Goose had failed.

Nonetheless, Yuan Zhou didn't waste it at all. He ate up the better part of the 3500g Roast Goose and left the remaining bones to Broth.

He just ignored that it was merely a pet dog.

"Hey, a special meal today. You can eat some bones." Yuan Zhou looked at the dog Broth that was waiting to eat and said earnestly.

In his opinion, it was only common that cats eat fish and dogs eat bones. After all, he was the man that fed Broth with the noodle broth.

After doing all that, Yuan Zhou opened the door.

"Well, why are there so many people outside?" The instant Yuan Zhou opened his eyes wide, his serious expression returned immediately. The image mattered most.

However, he was a little puzzled. After the queuing machine was put into use, people lining up out there were usually the first twenty customers who could enter the restaurant first. But now, the big crowd of people outside nevertheless appeared to be more than 20.

However, the puzzlement was dispelled by Wu Hai at once.

"Boss Yuan, you've gone too far. What exactly are you cooking? Can we continue playing together happily after this?" Once Wu Hai entered the restaurant, he looked around.

"Yeah, yeah, you are right. My drool almost reached my chest." The grandpa was strong even though he was old. He took the grandma's hand and crowded into the restaurant directly.

"Eating alone usually comes to no good end." Ling Hong also said that.

"Everybody, please get inside based on your turns. Please line up and come in." Having been pushed by the crowd to the door, Shen Min only squeezed into the restaurant now and said loudly.

Nevertheless, Yuan Zhou just walked towards the kitchen with quick steps and an indifferent look.

After all, these people seemed to be here to eat him rather than the dishes...

# Chapter 433: A Special Way of Selling

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"Stop it. Don't quarrel. Let me ask him." Jiang Changxi shouted energetically.

"Eh..." Startled by the shout, all customers in the restaurant shut their mouth subconsciously.

Jiang Changxi looked at the restaurant that calmed down with satisfaction. Only then did she turn her head and said to Yuan Zhou while looking at him.

"Boss Yuan, were you experimenting with a new dish just now?" Jiang Changxi asked directly.

"Yes, a new dish." Yuan Zhou stood in the kitchen and nodded his head seriously.

"What dish is it and when are you going to serve it?" Jiang Changxi was always frank and never beat around the bush when she talked to Yuan Zhou. Otherwise, Yuan Zhou might give her a vaguer answer.

"Roast Goose. The time to serve it is yet to be confirmed." Yuan Zhou looked at the blisters on his hand without a trace and said positively.

"Roast Goose? It's surprisingly the roast goose? OMG. I want to eat it." It was Man Man who said that first.

"Surprising. It seems to be the first time that Boss Yuan served a dish of an entire animal?" A customer said curiously.

"You are talking nonsense. Isn't the Phoenix Tail Prawn one whole?" Another customer beside him retorted back at him without any hesitation.

"I'm not talking about the prawns. I mean the intact chicken or fish. This Roast Goose is certainly intact." The first customer explained smilingly.

"You are right." Only then did the customer who spoke just now nodded his head.

"Why hasn't the time been confirmed?" There was full of puzzlement on the beautiful face of Jiang Changxi .

"I know. It's definitely because he has to respect the goose's mood." Man Man answered with a mischievous tone.

"Haw-haw. Yeah, right. It's presumably because he isn't sure when the goose has a good mood, either." Wu Hai answered delightedly while stroking his small mustaches.

Ever since Yuan Zhou explained once that it depended on the mood of the bees, this excuse had been a funny topic among them.

"No. It depends on my mood." Yuan Zhou knitted his brows and explained seriously.

"Ah? Why?" Wu Hai asked unconsciously.

"I only provide four roast geese every month." Yuan Zhou brought out the reason.

"It truly depends on your mood. So we just wait for you to have a good mood and make the roast goose, right?" As a lettered literary youth, even Wu Hai couldn't help rolling his eyes.

"Boss Yuan, life is all about action." Ling Hong showed his forearm's muscle and encouraged him.

"He's right. Man cannot be too lazy. Judging by the fragrance, four roast geese cannot even fill my stomach." Wu Hai nodded his head continuously.

"If Zheng Jiawei hears that, he will be very happy." Yuan Zhou ridiculed Wu Hai expressionlessly.

He said that because he often saw Zheng Jiawei run after Wu Hai and ask him to draw.

"How can the art be urged? Art is the collision of inspirations." Speaking of drawing, Wu Hai was always so solemn and serious.

"Yes. It also applies to me." Yuan Zhou nodded his head approvingly.

Alright. Wu Hai then found nothing to answer him.

"Everybody, business time commences now. Please take your time." Shen Min made use of every bit of time and said that.

Hearing that, the customers didn't pay attention to the new dish anymore. After all, eating lunch first mattered most for now. The blast of the fragrance just now made them almost drool. Of course, they also swallowed much saliva.

"This old man is going to be extravagant for once. One serving of Dongpo Pig Knuckle and two servings of Clear Broth Noodle Soup Set." The grandpa ordered generously.

"Can you eat the pig knuckle?" The grandma instantly got angry.

"Yes, why not? It is anyhow cooked by Little Master Yuan." The grandpa said with his face full of smiles.

"Only this time, once." The grandma agreed after she pinched the grandpa.

After all, the pig knuckle was obviously greasy. The old man had a weak stomach and thus, it was fairly common for the grandma to be worried about her husband.

"Translucent beef Slices and plain cooked rice." The customers all ordered the meat dishes today.

It was presumably due to the crisp and fragrant taste just now that gave them such good appetite.

Shen Min passed the customers' order earnestly to Yuan Zhou while Yuan Zhou started to prepare it upon hearing that.

When he was making preparations, others inevitably saw the blisters on his hand.

As the time went by, Yuan Zhou had been accustomed to the blisters which were about a pea's size on his hand, which didn't

affect his movement, either.

"Look! Was Boss Yuan burned?" Yin Ya, who didn't want to talk to Yuan Zhou because of the matter of the treat last time, found it first.

"It seems to be so." Jiang Changxi never cooked, so she didn't really know about that.

"It's definitely a burn with such big blisters." Anyhow, Man Man was the boss of a patisserie. Upon seeing his hand, she nodded her head positively.

"Well..." Yin Ya didn't know what to say for that moment.

"He needs to use the medicine now. I don't think he has used any. Look at the shiny blisters." Man Man turned her head and took a look at Yin Ya and then said while frowning.

"Burn ointment?" Yin Ya wasn't clear about that, either.

"It's of little help. I have a bottle of mink oil that my friend has brought for me. It's especially useful for burns." Man Man got a shine in her eyes and suddenly remembered.

"Man Man, if Boss Yuan's burns get worse, he might need to rest again and then we'll be unable to eat the delicacies. Do you think it's necessary for you to donate your mink oil to him?" After Yin Ya heard that, she said to Man Man immediately.

"Ok, sure. But I won't give it to him directly in case he shows off too much. Ya Ya, you go give it to him." The evil smile on Man Man's face was even noticed by Jiang Changxi, but Yin Ya only concentrated on Yuan Zhou's wounded hand.

"No problem. Give it to me after lunch." Yin Ya agreed straightforwardly without hesitation.

She had forgotten the embarrassment that she encountered last time when she had a meal here.

"Um. Then it's settled." Man Man winked secretly at Jiang



Changxi before she said that primly.

While cooking earnestly with a face mask, Yuan Zhou nevertheless didn't know the blisters on his hand were cared about by three beautiful girls.

As Yin Ya had accepted the work, Jiang Changxi specially instructed Ling Hong and Wu Hai who had also found the blisters not to butt in, leaving this work to Yin Ya.

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Time flies when one is busy. Two hours passed very quickly and Yuan Zhou had forgotten the pain of the blisters.

"Thanks for coming. See you in the evening." Like always, Yuan Zhou stood in the kitchen and said courteously.

That also meant the complete end of the lunch time.

"Boss, I'm going back now." After Shen Min saw the last customer off, she said to Yuan Zhou.

"Be careful on the way back." Yuan Zhou nodded his head.

"Ta Ta Ta". Not until Shen Min's footsteps receded did Yuan Zhou sit down and have a rest.

Just a few minutes later, a human head appeared at the door. It was Wu Hong.

Yuan Zhou almost couldn't help but frown.

Having thought for a while, Yuan Zhou opened one side of the long curved table and walked out of the restaurant.

"Master Yuan Zhou, are you done now? Do you want to take me as your disciple now?" Seeing Yuan Zhou come out, Wu Hong asked at once.

Without saying anything, Yuan Zhou first looked at the small camp chair that just appeared at the door today. When he turned his head and saw Wu Hong's leisure state, he knew it was carried

here by him. Then, he took a deep breath and said.

"Wu Hong, I won't take you as my disciple. No matter how long you stand here, one day, one week, one month or one year, I won't change my mind." While saying that, Yuan Zhou appeared incomparably earnest and serious.

"Why?" Wu Hong opened his eyes wide and blushed instantly and then he asked loudly.

"You lack a most important thing to be a chef." Looking at Wu Hong, Yuan Zhou just remained indifferent to his anger and rage.

"What is it? How do you know I don't have it?" Wu Hong didn't really believe Yuan Zhou.

"Wu Hong, you have to know that only an iron rod can be ground into a needle while the wood can only be ground into a toothpick. But obviously, you haven't even made the effort of being a toothpick." Yuan Zhou looked at the small camping chair meaningfully.

"You! Humph!" Wu Hong couldn't help uttering that.

Yuan Zhou just refused Wu Hong at the very beginning, but now, he straightforwardly said in his face that he hadn't made any effort. Hearing that, Wu Hong totally couldn't accept this statement as he felt that he had truly been very sincere.

Having taken a look at Yuan Zhou, he turned around and prepared to leave.

"Please take your camp chair away with you. Be careful on the way back." Yuan Zhou said coldly behind him.

That made Wu Hong simply overwhelmed with shame and rage. He ran over there with quick steps, took the camping chair and ran away immediately.

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## Chapter 434: Yuan Zhou's Documentary Series

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"That young man is finally gone." Seeing Wu Hong run away, Boss Tong walked to Yuan Zhou.

"Good afternoon, Aunt Tong. Sorry for bothering you." Yuan Zhou nodded his head and said mildly with a light apology.

"No, not really. That young man knows nothing but to shout and shout." There was full of dislike in Boss Tong's tone.

Nonetheless, Yuan Zhou didn't say anything else, but just listened to her silently.

"That young man is too young. He only wants to acknowledge you as his teacher, but never works hard." Speaking of Yuan Zhou, Boss Tong appeared quite complacent as if he were her younger generation.

"He's indeed very young." Yuan Zhou approved of that.

"Exactly. That Master Cheng is originally a famous chef, but even he wants to acknowledge you as his teacher," said Boss Tong proudly as if it were also her own honor.

"Thank you for your compliment." Yuan Zhou was never modest about his customers' compliments. For Boss Tong's, however, he felt a little embarrassed.

"It's good that he is gone. I think he has greatly affected your business." Boss Tong was still very protective of Yuan Zhou.

"Thank you." Yuan Zhou thanked her sincerely.

"You're welcome. By the way, why didn't you bring your clothes here to wash, Xiao Yuan?" Boss Tong remembered the proper business.

"I've been able to wash by myself recently." Yuan Zhou answered with an inconspicuous blush on his face.

Speaking of which, it was also because Yuan Zhou couldn't wash his own clothes and thus paid to let Boss Tong wash them that they became acquainted. Of course, he only paid her for washing his winter clothes. For the summer clothes, he usually washed them by himself in order to save money formerly.

In order to evolve into the prince charming, Yuan Zhou had mastered this ability recently.

"Haha. That's great. It doesn't matter even if you can't. After you get a virtuous wife in future, you don't need to worry about that anymore." Boss Tong joked with him smilingly.

There appeared a kind smile on her skinny face.

"Ok. I will try my best." Yuan Zhou nodded his head.

"Good. Little Yuan, is he coming for you?" With her sharp eyes, Boss Tong caught sight of Presenter Lu and his fellows walking across the street towards them.

"Maybe." Yuan Zhou turned his head and also saw Presenter Lu. However, he was a little puzzled.

After all, the shooting had finished and they had reached a win-win situation. They weren't supposed to come again.

"Boss Yuan, good afternoon." Presenter Lu greeted courteously and mildly.

"Good afternoon." Yuan Zhou nodded his head.

"I know you are usually busy in the morning, so I come in the afternoon. Please don't take it personally." Presenter Lu brought out the reason why he came in the afternoon.

"What's the matter?" Yuan Zhou was also quite curious about his purpose.

"There's indeed a matter that I need to discuss with you." As a

presenter, Presenter Lu originally had a pretty face. With a smile like that, he really looked like a sunny and handsome man.

"Tell me first." When Yuan Zhou wasn't sculpting, he at least talked with others although he still spoke straightforwardly.

Seeing Yuan Zhou did not refuse him immediately, Presenter Lu also became relieved inwardly. Thus, the way he spoke became sincerer.

"Here's the situation. After the previous program was broadcasted, your professional sculpting skills greatly impressed the audiences. So I want to discuss with you if we can make a series." Presenter Lu enunciated clearly and gently.

"A series?" Yuan Zhou wanted to refuse him instinctively. After all, he really didn't know how to act in the program.

"Right. It's a series. That way, it can also promote the profession of chefs." Presenter Lu knew the price of the dishes and the fame of Yuan Zhou's restaurant and naturally, he knew that the free publicity wasn't a good motivation for Yuan Zhou. Therefore, he brought out a reason that sounded noble.

"So it is." Without giving an affirmative or negative answer, Yuan Zhou was about to refuse when Presenter Lu continued saying.

"I know you don't like talking much while cooking. Don't worry. I won't disturb you when you cook. You just need to answer a few questions occasionally." Presenter Lu said at once when he recognized that Yuan Zhou was afraid of trouble.

No wonder Presenter Lu was a professional presenter. With only a few words, he managed to make Yuan Zhou unable to refuse him.

At the sight of Yuan Zhou's hesitant look, Presenter Lu couldn't help letting out a sigh of relief.

"It seems that I have used the right strategy." Presenter Lu felt slightly comfortable inwardly.

That's right. Before he came to Yuan Zhou's restaurant, Presenter Lu had worked out a strategy.

First of all, he was a professional presenter and hence had a high EQ, far higher than that of Yuan Zhou.

So he spoke with Yuan Zhou politely, courteously and modestly. While listening to Yuan Zhou carefully, he also observed Yuan Zhou's expression constantly at the same time and made adjustment accordingly.

Judging from the result, it indeed worked well.

"I don't like being filmed." Yuan Zhou frowned slightly and still refused with a euphemistic tone.

"Never mind. We won't disturb you just like we did last time. You can just raise your head and say a few words occasionally. It's very simple and not troublesome at all." It was within his expectation to be refused. However, Present Lu didn't give up and still tried to persuade him.

For fear of being refused again, Presenter Lu continued saying, "You can consider carefully today and I will come tomorrow. I won't bother you anymore now."

"Ok. Bye." Yuan Zhou had intended to refuse him again, but nevertheless gave up when he caught sight of Yin Ya who was standing silently at the side.

"This Presenter Lu is really capable of weighing others' words and watching their expressions." Yuan Zhou murmured in the heart and only then looked toward Yin Ya.

"It's not business time." This was what Yuan Zhou said to Yin Ya once he opened his mouth.

"Do you think I'm a pig? I have just finished my lunch." Yin Ya rolled her eyes angrily.

After saying that, Yin Ya thought for a while and suddenly

realized that there was no problem for her to eat once again. Of course, she could not say that out.

"Then what do you come here for?" Yuan Zhou swore that his words were what it literally meant.

After all, it was the first time that Yin Ya had been here at this time of day. Therefore, Yuan Zhou was fairly curious. However, Yin Ya suddenly became a little disappointed.

"Nothing special. Man Man asked me to give you this. Take it," said Yin Ya stiffly. The smile on her face had disappeared at that time.

"Ok. What is it?" Yuan Zhou received it and asked subconsciously.

"Why don't you check it by yourself?" As a beauty, Yin Ya was always beautiful even when she rolled her eyes.

"Nothing is written on it." Yuan Zhou was a little embarrassed.

Yuan Zhou was holding a mildly white porcelain bottle in his hand. Except for some decorative patterns, indeed there wasn't any word written on it."

"Cough cough cough. It's mink oil. We know you are burned and must feel terrible. Just take it to use." Only when Yin Ya heard Yuan Zhou did she suddenly realize it was a sub-packaging and there were truly no words on it. Therefore, she coughed to hide her embarrassment and then explained indifferently.

"Send my gratitude to Man Man, please. And also thank you for your dropping by." Yuan Zhou revealed a faint smile and said gently.

"It's so rare to hear you say some good words." Yin Ya humphed.

"No, I don't think so. I feel I always say good words." Yuan Zhou answered bluntly without even thinking.

"You are thinking too much. Just use it now. A chef that has a

senior master as his disciple surprisingly can also get burned?" Yin Ya was originally mild when she talked to people. However, she just found it difficult to treat Yuan Zhou like that.

After all, Yuan Zhou could choke her up very easily.

"It was just an accident." Yuan Zhou looked at the blisters on his hand and knitted his brows slightly.

"Yeah, yeah, of course. Then use the medicine." After saying that, Yin Ya turned around and left.

"Thank you." Yuan Zhou said again.

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# Chapter 435: Hope Lies In The Field

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"The attraction of this prince charming is really irresistible." Taking the mink oil in his hand, Yuan Zhou thought complacently in the heart.

However, Yuan Zhou didn't act complacently for long before he saw Presenter Lu, who had just left, return.

"Xi Suo". Spontaneously, Yuan Zhou put the bottle of mink oil into his sleeves.

"Well, I'm sorry. Did I bother you, Boss Yuan?" Presenter Lu apologized once he arrived.

"No. What's the problem?" Yuan Zhou shook his head and then asked.

"I forgot to make an appointment with you. When do you have time tomorrow?" Presenter Lu came to the point directly.

"This time of day is alright." Yuan Zhou checked the time and said.

"Alright. I'll drop by to visit you again tomorrow. Sorry to bother you." Presenter Lu agreed immediately with a smile.

Presenter Lu turned around smilingly and was more certain of the probability that Yuan Zhou would agree him.

It was actually one of Presenter Lu's plans to come again and ask about the time.

If Yuan Zhou agreed to confirm the time with him, he was likely to make it. If not, he had to change another plan.

Judging from the current situation, however, he didn't need to do that.

"Boss Yuan isn't as tough as imagined before." Presenter Lu murmured and then he went back into his car and prepared to leave.

...

Yin Ya went straight back to her company after she sent the mink oil to Yuan Zhou. Not until the following day did she meet Man Man on the way to Yuan Zhou's restaurant.

"Ya Ya, what are you going to eat today?" Man Man greeted her first.

"I'm going to eat something bland. Yesterday, I ordered the Braised Pork with Soy Sauce of the 100 Styles of Rice Cuisine." Yin Ya answered smilingly.

"You are so cunning. The dish I have ordered is only available this evening, so I will eat yours for lunch." Man Man immediately stopped Yin Ya.

"No problem. I will eat yours in the evening." Yin Ya retorted smilingly.

"Ok. This Braised Pork with Soy Sauce is really a blessing to girls." Man Man sighed with emotion.

"Exactly. It tastes of meat and has the calories of rice. It's simply a heavenly food." Thinking of the Braised Pork with Soy Sauce that melted upon touching the mouth, Yin Ya also revealed a manner of enjoyment.

"Right on. It feels to be the same as an authentic meat dish." Man Man nodded her head continuously.

They were talking so happily as if the Braised Pork with Soy Sauce made of rice had been in their mouth.

The lean meat was chewy and still carried the fragrance of authentic meat while the fat melted upon touching the mouth, along with the strong fragrance of soy sauce which lingered in his mouth. Matched with the sweetness of the cane sugar, it was simply an invincible delicacy.

"When exactly can Boss Yuan develop other meat dishes? Just

thinking of that makes me drool." Behind the beautiful appearance of Yin Ya was also a heart of a foodie.

"It's difficult only for others, but not for you. Why don't you ask?" Man Man rolled her eyes and said in a teasing manner.

"Man Man, don't talk nonsense." There suddenly appeared a blush on Yin Ya's face. Matched with her porcelain white skin, she was extraordinarily beautiful.

"Tell me later how you sent him the medicine yesterday. Ok?" Man Man took Yin Ya's hand and revealed an evil laugh.

"Yesterday? Yesterday, I told him that you offered the medicine and I was just running errands. Haha." Yin Ya deliberately spoke with a long breath. She burst into laughter while looking at Man Man.

"Even if you say so, no one will believe in you." Man Man didn't care about her answer at all. Instead, she said affirmatively.

"It's not for sure." Yin Ya smiled and said.

Without saying anything else, Man Man just shrugged and imagined in his mind what they had talked.

The two girls joked and walked to Yuan Zhou's restaurant together like that. Therefore, Man Man stared at Yuan Zhou with a weird gaze for quite a while when they started to eat lunch.

Yuan Zhou was quite uncomfortable by the stare. After thinking for a while, he guessed she might come here to confirm if the mink oil worked well.

Once the lunch time ended and there were few customers left, Yuan Zhou stopped Man Man.

"Man Man, wait a moment."

"Are you talking to me?" Man Man took a look at Yin Ya and then asked in surprise.

"Um." Yuan Zhou nodded his head.

When Zhou Jia found the three people were going to talk, she reacted and immediately left.

"What's the matter?" Man Man stopped Yin Ya who wanted to leave and then asked him.

"Thank you for providing me the mink oil yesterday. It worked very well on me." Yuan Zhou thanked her sincerely.

"Haha. You are welcome. It's..." Just when Man Man wanted to say it was Yin Ya who requested that, Yin Ya pinched her waist forcibly. Therefore, she stopped at once.

"Um?" Yuan Zhou didn't know what happened.

"Never mind. If it works well on you, use more of it. That way, Yin Ya wouldn't have come in vain." Man Man said primly.

"Ok. I will." Yuan Zhou nodded and agreed.

"Alright. I'm leaving now. There's still so much work in my store." Hinted by Yin Ya with her obscure gaze, Man Man took her leave right away.

"Be careful on the way home." Yuan Zhou nodded his head and saw the two girls walk away.

"I know, I know." After a nod, Man Man was pulled away by Yin Ya.

"Friendship between girls are really strange." With Yuan Zhou's sharp eyes, he naturally found Yin Ya was pinching Man Man just now and thus sighed with emotion like that.

He didn't sigh with emotion for long before Presenter Lu arrived concisely.

"Boss Yuan, good afternoon." Presenter Lu greeted Yuan Zhou smilingly once he arrived.

"Hello." Yuan Zhou nodded.

Yuan Zhou wasn't good at coping with others' kindness,

therefore he appeared to be more solemn sometimes. For example, now.

"Boss Yuan, here's the thing. I made a proposal today about how many episodes would be and what questions might be asked. It's here with me. Do you want to have a look?" Presenter Lu took out a folder immediately and said courteously.

"Pardon?" Yuan Zhou was a little muddled. Besides, he felt it was troublesome, too. After all, that folder wasn't thin at all.

"If it's inconvenient for you to read by yourself, let me explain it to you." Presenter Lu said smartly.

"Ok. Tell me, please." Yuan Zhou nodded his head.

"Alright. I will stress on what questions I will ask in the shooting." Presenter Lu guided Yuan Zhou step by step without a trace.

Once Yuan Zhou nodded, Presenter Lu said at once.

"What do you want us to shoot? I will introduce the questions according to your answer." Presenter Lu asked that craftily.

"I haven't agreed with you on the filming." Yuan Zhou hit the nail on the head.

"I'm sorry for being in such a hurry. Do you agree for me to film?" Presenter Lu didn't feel embarrassed at all. Instead, he just continued asking.

"How long will the filming take?" Yuan Zhou asked.

"As your culinary skills are so wonderful, I think half an hour is enough. We don't even need the aftereffects." Presenter Lu praised Yuan Zhou without a trace.

"Ok. You can film me when I cook dishes for myself." Yuan Zhou nodded his head and agreed.

"Good. Sorry to bother you." Presenter Lu became happy immediately.

"How many episodes are you going to film?" Yuan Zhou remembered that it was a series and thus asked.

"Five, five episodes in all. Don't worry. We still adhere to the principle that we never disturb you." Presenter Lu said with confidence.

Presenter Lu knew well that Yuan Zhou was afraid of trouble, so he had prepared only a few questions. Meanwhile, the questions were funny and could enable them to interact with each other. He really had a good command of language."

What a joke! The script was written by the screenwriter under the supervision of Presenter Lu, who had only one requirement. LESS WORDS!

Therefore, Presenter Lu introduced all the questions within ten minutes.

"Here are all the questions." Presenter Lu said smilingly.

"Ok, good. When are you going to shoot?" Yuan Zhou asked.

Before Presenter Lu answered him, however, the system suddenly appeared in his mind.

The system displayed, "Leveling up mission is hereby unlocked."

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# Chapter 436: The Allure of 60% Income Sharing

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Upon reading that, even Yuan Zhou got a little excited and couldn't help knitting his brows.

Yuan Zhou's frown meant nothing to himself, but it scared Presenter Lu.

"What's the matter with you, boss?" Presenter Lu asked carefully and naturally.

"Nothing. You go ahead." Yuan Zhou shook his head and then said.

"OK. There will be about five questions. You only need to answer three." Presenter Lu brought out a very small number.

"Three? I can answer questions at the beginning and the end of the shooting and besides, before customers eat." Yuan Zhou thought about it and said so.

"No problem. Thank you, Boss Yuan." Presenter Lu also thought the same. After all, he knew the habits of Yuan Zhou.

A man who didn't speak when he sculpted wouldn't speak during cooking, either.

"Now that the time is confirmed, I won't bother you anymore. This is my phone number. If you have any questions, you can call me directly." Presenter Lu handed him his business card politely.

"You can decide when to start filming. Just let me know by then." Presenter Lu said with a smile.

"Ok. The day after tomorrow." Yuan Zhou said cleanly.

"Great. I'm leaving now." Since Presenter Lu had got a satisfactory answer, he said goodbye and prepared to leave.

Speaking of which, Presenter Lu was truly clever. His

understanding of Yuan Zhou's temperament was also very accurate.

He didn't give his business card to Yuan Zhou when he came for the first time. It would make both Yuan Zhou and himself feel embarrassed if it was refused. Although Yuan Zhou wouldn't necessarily do that, Presenter Lu still put an end to such a possibility.

This time, however, he provided Yuan Zhou with the initiative, which made Yuan Zhou feel embarrassed and thus confirmed the earliest shooting time. Presenter Lu gave Yuan Zhou his phone number voluntarily, then kept a low profile and requested Yuan Zhou to notify him. One must admit that Presenter Lu had absolutely racked his brains this time in order to complete the task given by the chief editor.

"He's a really clever presenter." Yuan Zhou watched Presenter Lu leave and then sighed.

Although Yuan Zhou didn't discover all the intentions of Presenter Lu, he actually guessed 80% of that correctly. However, Presenter Lu wasn't a bad guy and nor did he have any evil intentions. He just tried to reach his goal according to Yuan Zhou's liking.

Nonetheless, Yuan Zhou was really not good at dealing with others' goodwill, so he agreed. Luckily, it wasn't complicated at all.

"Now I ought to do my own thing." Seeing Presenter Lu leaving, Yuan Zhou turned around and left.

The moment he got back in the restaurant, he closed the door.

"System, I will level up after I complete the mission, right?" While looking at the mission called 'upgrade mission', Yuan Zhou asked meticulously.

After all, it wasn't the first time that the system had played with words like that. Yuan Zhou indicated that he wouldn't be taken in



again.

The system displayed, "Yes."

"I will level up immediately upon completion of the mission and there will be no more missions, right?" Yuan Zhou continued asking carefully.

The system displayed, "It is the upgrade mission. Once you complete it, you can level up."

"OK. I trust you this time, System." Yuan Zhou nodded his head with satisfaction.

"Wait, wait. After I level up this time, can I get 60% of the total income?" Yuan Zhou suddenly got very excited.

The system displayed, "According to the rules, yes."

"Haha. I can finally take the greater part." Yuan Zhou almost wanted to yell to the sky.

Such insane behavior of Yuan Zhou could only be seen by the system.

"Come on. Please show me my current level." Yuan Zhou said exuberantly.

Text description: This system came from a galaxy unknown to you. It was invented by the famous Dr. A, in order to let humans obtain higher levels of spiritual enjoyment. It was cast away to the earth 2500 years ago and has experienced 10 hosts. You are No. 11."

Target: The system will help you to get a thorough knowledge of both western and traditional Chinese foods so you can become the top Master Chef in the world.

Host: Yuan Zhou (Ordinary Human, Nationality: Chinese Han)

Gender: Male

Age: 24

Physical quality: B (overall evaluations of neural response,

strength, coordination and dexterity, etc.)

Cooking talent: Unknown

Skill: None

Tools: None

5 Dimensions Cooking evaluation: Novice

(A chef that hasn't mastered even one complete dialect cuisines cannot be regarded as a senior chef.)

Grade: 4 (50% income sharing)

"Haha. I'm about to get 60% of the total income. But has my physical fitness improved?" Yuan Zhou looked at the physical quality curiously and then asked.

The system displayed, "It can be improved as long as you keep exercising."

"As expected." Yuan Zhou pinched his own strong arms.

"To be honest, this grade is not my fault." Yuan Zhou felt that it was necessary to reason with the system on that.

The system displayed, "It's because your level is too low."

"Alright. I'm convinced." Yuan Zhou said helplessly.

The system displayed, "Host, please work harder to level up."

"Ok. Let me see the details of the upgrade mission now." Yuan Zhou nodded, tapped the mission open and prepared to check it.

[Upgrade mission] Coming here for you

(Mission tips: Please complete the mission that requires 100 customers to come specifically to eat the delicacies in the restaurant within 30 days.)

[Mission reward] Upgrade once; drawing a lottery once; a special reward; a reward for the intermediate chef

(Reward tips: More rewards are in the hand of the master chef

system. Work hard to level up, young man!)

"What does this mission mean?" Yuan Zhou was a little puzzled.

The system displayed, "Customers from other places that come especially for the delicious dishes in the restaurant, not for scenery, not for the culture and geography, not for visiting relatives and friends. This kind of customers cannot be less than 100."

"You mean just catching a plane here for a meal, right?" Yuan Zhou suddenly recalled wealthy Arabian princes.

After all, they even took their own elevator along with them when they traveled out. A private plane could no longer satisfy them and they must take their own elevator.

The system displayed, "Yes. They must come for the host's good craftsmanship."

"One hundred people within thirty days? That means at least three to four such customers per day. I'll have to go and check the rich people in our country, the kind that loves eating." Yuan Zhou simply wanted to support his forehead.

He had great confidence in his craftsmanship, but he was not sure if they could specially summon people from other places just for a meal.

Yuan Zhou was still confident if they came over for a trip and dropped by for a meal on the way after hearing about his reputation.

After all, if they came from afar just for a meal, it was definitely for their favorite food. However, Yuan Zhou was cooking delicious dishes and not heroin. People could still live well without his delicious food, so this mission was indeed very difficult.

"How far do you mean by saying 'other places'? There are quite a few divisions in our municipality. Do people from other divisions count?" Yuan Zhou suddenly remembered the divisions of

Chengdu.

If one used a ring to describe areas, there were not only Ring One to Ring Four but also a variety of regional divisions. If so, the difficulty reduced a lot.

The system displayed, "Now that you have completed the hidden mission and become well-known to the whole city, the requirement for you is that they must come from outside the municipality.

"I was wondering why you suddenly rewarded me with a roast goose just now. So you dug a hole and waited for me over here." Yuan Zhou felt that he had a deep understanding of the saying "There is no free lunch" now.

The system displayed, "The starting time of the mission is tomorrow."

"You never feel comfortable if you don't scam others, right?" Yuan Zhou continued to ridicule.

"Couldn't there be more sincerity and less devious plans between the host and the system?" Yuan Zhou asked with exceptional sincerity.

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# Chapter 437: Best Roast Goose In the World

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"Tricks are unpopular nowadays. System, please tell me if you have any more pitfalls." Yuan Zhou supported his forehead and said weakly.

The system displayed, "There is no necessary connection between the two."

"Then, that means there must absolutely have a connection." Yuan Zhou added conveniently.

"Forget it. I'd rather look at my reward to comfort myself." Seeing the system not answer him for quite a while, Yuan Zhou looked at the reward, again.

Upon reading that, however, Yuan Zhou found something different, again.

"What's the intermediate chef reward?" Yuan Zhou asked curiously.

The system displayed, "You can get it after you reach Level 5."

"Sometimes, I feel like you actually say nothing although you are spitting out words." Yuan Zhou couldn't help rolling his eyes.

The system displayed, "Host, the release of the reward for intermediate chef only takes place when you are at Level 5."

When Yuan Zhou saw this answer, he felt quite speechless. Wasn't it just lengthening the sentence just like what school students did?

"Sure enough. Your words are meaningless" Yuan Zhou was fairly speechless.

"If you can't talk about it, then can you say something about the special reward?" Yuan Zhou continued asking.

The system displayed, "The special reward is a special reward to be given to the host."

"Ho Ho." The two words of Yuan Zhou had fully stood for his attitude.

This damn system really knew nothing and Yuan Zhou could do nothing about it.

On one point, however, Yuan Zhou was quite sure, and that was, he could get 60% of the total income after he levelled up. Just this single award was considered to be quite good.

"With such a big reward, the mission seems to be very difficult." Looking at the mission, Yuan Zhou was thinking inwardly about how to complete it.

First of all, he could not publicize the restaurant on his own, which meant that he couldn't spend money on advertising. Therefore, he couldn't complete the mission unless he used a similar way as before, through public reputation.

"Speaking of which, I seem to be going to take part in a TV program." Yuan Zhou suddenly remembered about the shooting the day after tomorrow.

With sudden inspiration, he remembered the business card that Presenter Lu gave to him.

"It seems to be here." Yuan Zhou took the business card out from the sleeve bag and saw the phone number.

He was thinking about what to say.

"Let me call first." Yuan Zhou picked up the business card and prepared to make a call.

"Beep beep beep". The phone didn't ring for long before it was answered.

"Hello, Boss Yuan." The voice of Presenter Lu was as polite and gentle as ever.

"About the questions, I would like to add another one." Yuan Zhou got straight to the point once he spoke.

"No problem. You just tell me and let me record it." Presenter Lu agreed immediately.

"Just add the advantages of this restaurant. So ask something related to that." Yuan Zhou considered for a while and then said.

"Sure. I'll ask you to talk about the advantages of your restaurant. Is that ok?" Presenter Lu instantly organized the word.

"Ok. Sorry to bother you." Yuan Zhou nodded his head.

"Not, not at all." There was a gentle smile in the voice of Presenter Lu.

"So, that's it. See you the day after tomorrow." Upon saying that, Yuan Zhou hung up the phone.

"Bye, Boss Yuan." Presenter Lu maintained polite and courteous all along.

Nonetheless, it happened to be seen by Scenarist Li.

"You are so humble to him." Scenarist Li joked with Presenter Lu.

"Nothing special. I am just appearing to be polite and courteous." Presenter Lu said indifferently.

"No wonder you are a professional presenter." Scenarist Li gave a thumbs up.

After solving the problem, Yuan Zhou felt slightly relieved. For now, he just waited to see the effect after the program was broadcasted and then thought about the plan.

While Yuan Zhou was reassured at his end, there were some people who were arguing strongly about his craftsmanship at the other side.

They were the couple, Wuzhou and Zhuang Xinmu.

It was originally a joyful event, but now they were not that happy.

The event was simple. Wu Zhou didn't go to Yuan Zhou's

restaurant these few days, as he was making preparations for his marriage.

It had been nearly one year since Yuan Zhou's restaurant was opened for business. And these two people were also starting to prepare for marriage.

They came out together today to select hotels and reserved the wedding banquet.

"Little Wu, my colleagues introduced the hotel to me. They say the environment and food here are very good. Let's go to try it today. I made the appointment with them half a month ago." Zhuang Xinmu held Wu Zhou's arm and revealed a sweet look on her face.

"It's all up to you. You decide." Wu Zhou said with a bold and generous tone.

"No, that won't do. It's only good when we both feel satisfied." Zhuang Xinmu was very considerate.

"Ok. Let's just have a look first." Wu Zhou smiled and nodded.

"Welcome!" There were two beautiful girls dressed in cheongsams standing at the gate. Once they saw Wu Zhou and Zhuang Xinmu, they uttered softly and welcomed them.

It was located in the suburb of Chengdu. However, the land here wasn't cheap at all. The hotel was not far from a golf course, and about two blocks away, there was a townhouse area. Apart from that, there was also a villa area within a ten minutes' drive.

In other words, this was the legendary wealthy district.

Therefore, this hotel called Goose Jin Xuan also looked splendid and beautiful on every aspect.

Indigo roof, white walls, a spacious courtyard and blossoming flowers in the small garden inside that could be seen from outside the gate.



In place of the stone lions, two beauties in cheongsam were standing at the gate. They looked as delicate and beautiful as the courtyard in the south.

"The environment is pretty good." Having been led into the gate, Wu Zhou said to Zhuang Xinmu.

"Absolutely. The small garden in the courtyard looks so beautiful." Zhuang Xinmu also nodded approvingly.

"It must be the first time that you came here, right? The flowers in this small garden are all planted and managed by ourselves, so they are beautiful." The girl leading the way in front of them explained the flowers in the garden to them smilingly.

It didn't take them too long to get to the main room.

The main hall was also designed in an Eastern style. The wood carvings everywhere and the fresh flowers laid at the corners made the main hall appear to be a delicate woman from the south.

"You must be Mr. Wu and Ms. Zhuang. I am the manager here, Liao Rui. Nice to meet you." As soon as they entered the main hall, a man who was dressed in a business suit came up and said to them. He had a short hair and looked quite spirited.

"Yes we are. Nice to meet you, too." Matters like handshakes were usually done by Wu Zhou in place of his girlfriend. Therefore, Wu Zhou spoke first.

"First of all, I wish you two a happy marriage." Liao Rui congratulated them once he talked.

"Thank you." Wu Zhou smiled with great satisfaction.

Nevertheless, Zhuang Xinmu pinched Wu Zhou and then whispered softly, "I haven't married you yet."

"The sample meal has been prepared. This way, please." Without saying much, Liao Rui reached out his hand and made a gesture.

"You will be mine sooner or later." While Liao Rui was turning

his head, Wu Zhou took Zhuang Xinmu's hands.

"Humph." Zhuang Xinmu humphed lightly.

"Please be rest assured. Both the taste of the food and the environment are top-notch over here." Liao Rui said with great confidence.

"Um. We'll know that after we eat." Wu Zhou and Zhuang Xinmu were accustomed to eating in Yuan Zhou's restaurant and of course, they weren't really expecting too much concerning the taste of the food here.

Liao Rui didn't boast much, but just guided them to a private room, on which three characters meaning "Kaffir Lily Room" were written.

"Serve the dishes now." After the two lovers got seated, Liao Rui first talked to the walkie-talkie and then faced Wu Zhou and Zhuang Xinmu.

"The main dish today is roast goose. This dish served in our restaurant is definitely the best in the world." Li Rui said smilingly.

"Roast goose?" Hearing that, Wu Zhou recalled the flavor outside Yuan Zhou's restaurant.

"Yes, roast goose. It's the signature dish of our restaurant." Liao Rui nodded his head.

Without giving any remarks, Wu Zhou just waited to try the taste.

## Chapter 438: Whose Roast Goose Can Be Better Than Mine?

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"Hello, shall we serve the dishes now?" As Manager Liao was preparing to explain something more, a woman in a short cheongsam gently knocked at the door and said.

"Shall we serve the dishes?" Manager Liao turned his head to Wu Zhou and Zhuang Xinmu and asked.

"Please." Wu Zhou looked at Zhuang Xinmu first before he nodded and said.

"Okay. We'll serve the dishes for you two right away." The woman in short cheongsam smiled faintly. Then, she turned her head and instructed the waiter behind her.

Because it was a food tasting activity in this grand and high-end restaurant, the amount of each dish was only a little but the total dishes amounted to 22.

"This is our main dish today, the Best Roast Goose In the World." The woman in short cheongsam introduced to them in detail when each dish was served.

Meanwhile, Manager Liao only smiled at the side. The two people really had a tacit cooperation.

During the introduction, the woman in short cheongsam also signaled to them to taste the dish. It was truly enjoyable to eat the delicious food while they were listening to the sweet and melodious voice of the woman in the short cheongsam.

"They actually called it this." Wu Zhou was quite dissatisfied with the roast goose in the exquisite plate in front of him.

All the dishes were served in small portion and the roast goose served in a small exquisite plate was no exception.

As it was the main dish served for the wedding banquet, the roast

goose was dished up in a heart-shaped plate. It was laid out in a fan-shaped arrangement by the larger part of the plate. With gravy poured over it, the roast goose appeared shiny and smooth.

At the smaller part of the plate was the light yellow plum sauce, inside of which there seemed to be the flesh of the plums. On the whole, it looked fairly beautiful.

"It looks good, but it's far from being called 'best' just on the aspect of flavor." As a programmer, Wu Zhou had a way with words only when he faced Zhuang Xinmu. At other times, however, he just remained polite at a basic level.

When it came to matters that he adhered to, he wouldn't listen to anyone's advice.

"Sir, you'll know how it tastes after you eat it." The woman in short cheongsam remained smiling and said that.

"I don't need to eat it to tell you that it is unlikely to be number one." Wu Zhou refused bluntly.

"Mu Mu, listen to me. Boss Yuan has also served the Roast Goose. I smelled the flavor at the door of Yuan Zhou's restaurant the other day and my mouth almost became dry from drooling too much. It smelled way too fragrant." Wu Zhou turned his head, looking at Zhuang Xindu, and then said.

"Yes. That's for sure." Zhuang Xinmu nodded affirmatively.

"Besides, Boss Yuan just tried cooking the new dish that way. In other words, it wasn't a finished product. I want to eat that Roast Goose so much." The name, Roast Goose, suddenly reminded Wu Zhou of the taste of that day.

"I want to eat it." Wu Zhou couldn't help drooling.

Wu Zhou and Zhuang Xinmu didn't have that reaction even after they had eaten so many dishes here. Just by thinking of the flavor of Yuan Zhou's failed Roast Goose, however, they couldn't help swallowing their slobber secretly.

"Since you doubt our main dish, the Roast Goose, how about I ask our head chef to come and explain to you?" At that time, Manager Liao suddenly went up and said to them.

"I don't think you can name it the Best Roast Goose In the World. Otherwise, what should Boss Yuan name his roast goose?" Stared at by Zhuang Xinmu with her stern gaze, Wu Zhou's voice became lower and lower, with yet a look of dissatisfaction.

"No, it's not necessary. He just doesn't like the Roast Goose here." Zhuang Xinmu said courteously.

"Never mind. He can tell you the significance of this dish. Sorry to be a bother." Liao Rui smiled and said without any sign of anger on his face.

"Well, it's of no use whether he comes or not. It's much too exaggerated to call it the best in the world." At that moment, Wu Zhou had great dissatisfaction with not being able to eat Yuan Zhou's roast goose. However, the current roast goose which couldn't even arouse his appetite made him more dissatisfied.

Of course, Wu Zhou didn't speak very loudly when he said that for sake of his girlfriend's respectability. However, everyone present were worldly-wise men and pretended to hear nothing. Nonetheless, Liao Rui just repeated again that he would send for the head chef.

"All right. Sorry to bother you." Zhuang Xinmu agreed this time. If they refused him again, that would be embarrassing.

"One moment, please. Try eating some desserts. Our desserts taste really good." While speaking of that, Manager Liao signaled the waitress behind him to carry the exquisite desserts to them.

Only after the desserts were carried to them did Manager Liao leave. Meanwhile, the woman in a short cheongsam was still introducing the desserts at the side, from their preparation methods to the ingredients used as well as their significance, one

by one.

"Manager Liao, why did you send for the head chef to explain to them?" Liao Rui was followed by a waitress from another room. She had endured for quite a while, but still couldn't help asking at last.

"Who's in that room now?" Liao Rui didn't answer her, but instead asked back.

"Don't worry, manager. Little Ye is there," said the waitress immediately.

"Okay." Liao Rui nodded.

"Manager, we have so many customers every day trying to reserve the wedding banquet and many can't even get it. Why do you...?" The waitress followed him for some distance and then asked again.

"They were introduced here by Yao Qing. If not so, how could they cut the line and try the dishes out?" Liao Rui answered her.

"It turns out to be Miss Yao. But I think Head Chef Zhan would be angry later." Unlike a genuine waitress, the waitress joked with Liao Rui.

"Little Mi, don't joke during working hours." Liao Rui said harshly.

"Got it, brother." Seeing no one is around, the waitress stuck out her tongue.

"All right, we have arrived at the kitchen. I'll go to find Head Chef Zhan," said Liao Rui seriously.

"Goodbye, brother." The waitress waved her hand and went back to work.

Head Chef Zhan was about 50 years old. He was skinny and had a red face. Wearing a chef's hat, he looked quite meticulous with a serious gaze. Although he didn't have a chef's certificate, he had

studied the roast goose all his life. So this dish was actually his signature dish.

Naturally, he was unable to accept a slightest doubt.

"Master Zhan, can we take out the goose halfway and brush the sesame oil over it? It might be tastier that way." A young man in a chef's suit suggested in a low voice.

"If you brush it on your body and then roast it, I'm sure only fat will come out and not brains." Head Chef Zhan said loudly.

"I told you not to bother our master when he's roasting the goose" Another person stopped the young cook immediately.

"Oh." The young cook became alert right away. He took a step back and spoke no more.

"I have roasted the goose for so many years. How long have you been with me? Get out." Head Chef Zhan stared at him and directly drove him away.

"Hello, Head Chef Zhan." Liao Rui entered the kitchen during the gap and then greeted first.

"What's the matter, Manager Liao?" Without even turning his head, Chef Zhan just stared at the goose.

"The customers in Kaffir Lily Room would like to talk you. It's about your roast goose." Manager Liao knew the temper of Head Chef Zhan well.

Speaking that way could make it appear important and meanwhile wouldn't make him lose temper.

"You guys don't even know how to introduce a goose. I'll be there for five minutes. You guys watch the goose and call me if there is anything." Head Chef Zhan accepted the compliments delightedly. He immediately said to another chef at the side.

"Yes, sure. Nobody in this restaurant knows about the goose better than you do." Manager Liao said seriously.

"That's for sure. No one can roast the goose better than me?"  
When Head Chef Zhan said that, he wasn't boasting. Instead, he had absolute confidence.



# Chapter 439: If You Are Capable, Speak Out

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"That's for sure. You've been studying the roast goose for so long time." Manager Liao had a way with words. He specifically said things that Chef Zhan loved to hear.

"You are right. How many people are there in the Kaffir Lily Room?" Hearing the compliments, Chef Zhan instantly became happy. Then, he began to ask about the proper business.

"Two. They are introduced here by Yao Qing to reserve the wedding banquet." Manager Liao answered frankly. "It turns out to be that little girl." Chef Zhan nodded his head, indicating he understood now.

Then, the two people walked towards the room unhurriedly. In the meantime, Wu Zhou and Zhuang Xinmu were still eating the desserts.

"By comparison, Boss Yuan's desserts can arouse my appetite more." Wu Zhou ridiculed in his heart.

Seeing his girlfriend so happy, however, he had to eat it together, which made him appear quite manly.

"Dong Dong". Manager Liao knocked at the door.

"Come in, please." Wu Zhou answered.

As soon as Wu Zhou said that, the woman in a short cheongsam went up to open the door.

After Manager Liao knocked at the door, he then stepped back to the behind of Chef Zhan.

Therefore, Wu Zhou and Zhuang Xinmu caught sight of Chef Zhan who was dressed in a snow-white chef uniform the moment the door was opened.

He wore a chef's hat and appeared to be quite skinny. With eyes brimming with vigour, he looked fairly serious. But now, there

was a tender look on his face.

"Hi, nice to meet you. I'm the head chef here. My surname is Zhan." Chef Zhan introduced himself with a reserved tone.

"Hello, nice to meet you, too." Wu Zhou and Zhuang Xinmu said at the same time.

"I heard from Manager Liao that you have some doubts about my Roast Goose, don't you?" Chef Zhan was quite gentle when he talked to the customers.

"Yes, I think this name of the dish is more in name than in reality." Wu Zhou spoke his mind directly.

Once he said that, even Manager Liao felt a little terrified. What a joke! Those who dared to challenge Chef Zhan had been severely criticized to death.

"Tsk, what a reckless man!" Manager Liao sighed sorrowfully in his heart.

"I told you he would definitely get mad." It was the waitress Little Mi that had returned.

"This guy really doesn't have a way with words. Can't he speak more politely?" Zhuang Xinmu felt rather embarrassed about the straightforwardness of her boyfriend. However, she also agreed with her boyfriend's opinion. Was there anyone that could cook dishes better than Boss Yuan? Well, they were totally unqualified.

Chef Zhan didn't lose his temper immediately. He looked at the intact roast goose first and then said.

"How do you come to this conclusion since you haven't touched the roast goose yet?" Chef Zhan asked them while pointing at the intact heart-shaped plate.

"Because the fragrance can't even arouse my appetite." Wu Zhou said in an obvious tone.

"Maybe you just have an upset stomach," said Chef Zhan at once.

"No. It's the taste that let me lose the desire to eat it." Wu Zhou shook his head and said seriously.

Presumably, programmers were all stubborn like that.

"Do you mean you have smelled a better fragrance before?" Chef Zhan turned up his nose at this speculation.

"Of course. The other day, I smelled a taste that almost made me drool outside the door. That taste is far better than this one. To be exact, they can't be mentioned in the same breath." Of course, Wu Zhou was talking about the roast goose that Yuan Zhou had failed in.

"Ho Ho. Do you know how long I have been cooking the roast goose? I'm afraid you were not even born when I first started. How dare you judge on my roast goose?" Chef Zhan said that affirmatively.

"I'm the customer and of course, I can judge it." Wu Zhou squared his shoulders and said seriously.

"Okay. If you are capable, you tell me on which aspect my roast goose is inferior." Chef Zhan struck the table heavily and said with great vigour.

"Let me say it." Wu Zhou agreed bluntly.

"I'm listening, I'm not deaf yet." Chef Zhan answered energetically.

"First of all, when you cut the roast goose into pieces, its fragrance leaked out and floated away. And when it arrived here, it was all gone. Therefore, the fragrance absolutely could not arouse my appetite." Wu Zhou's analysis was closely reasoned and well argued.

Nonetheless, he only talked about the fragrance. After all, he hadn't even seen the roast goose prepared by Yuan Zhou.

"In comparison, the fragrance of Boss Yuan's roast goose passed

through the entire restaurant and attracted people of nearly half a street. They just can't be mentioned in the same breath." Wu Zhou said with a sonorous and forceful tone.

"Despite all the utterances, you just feel that the taste is bland. That's easy. Go and bring a bag of salt." Chef Zhan sneered and said directly.

"No, I told you it's the fragrance. Of color, fragrance and taste, your roast goose doesn't even have the fragrance. Is it a cold dish?" Wu Zhou pointed at the roast goose that didn't give off any steam.

"Let me tell you today. If you are capable, bring that roast goose here to compare with mine. Don't just chatter. I have never been afraid of anyone like that." Chef Zhan burst into rude words carelessly.

"No, I can't." Wu Zhou refused flatly.

"You are playing me for a fool, aren't you? You'd better make it clear. Are you here to toy and humiliate me?" Chef Zhan glared at the two lovers with a threatening gaze.

"Of course not. The boss of that restaurant has a rule of not providing takeaways. So I can't take any dish out." Wu Chau shrugged his shoulders.

"Ok, fine. You tell me which master's craftsmanship makes you dare belittle my ability without even trying eating it." Chef Zhan pointed at Wu Zhou and revealed a manner of "If you don't tell me, I'm going to break your legs."

"It's Boss Yuan, Yuan Zhou. I only smelled the fragrance of the roast goose when he tried cooking it the other day. But until now, it isn't available to be ordered yet." Wu Zhou stood up straight and said without any fear.

"Who is that?" Chef Zhan really couldn't remember any great chef called Yuan Zhou.

"Chef Zhan, He's supposed to be the one that was good at

sculpting in the program that we watched the other day." Nevertheless, Manager Liao knew well about that and went forward to tell Chef Zhan.

"You mean the one on TV?" Chef Zhan suddenly remembered the masterful knife skills.

"Yes, it's probably him." Manager Liao nodded.

"Are you talking about the program of Folk Talent? Yes, he's that Boss Yuan." Wu Zhou revealed a proud look on his face.

"Humph. Many chefs do well in the knife skills, but only my roast goose is the best in the world." Chef Zhan snorted coldly.

"Watch your tongue. If Boss Yuan serves roast goose, who do you think will come here to eat yours?" Wu Zhou also said proudly.

"If you are capable, you let that guy surnamed Yuan come here and have a match with me. Just the craftsmanship of roasting goose requires him to practice for another few decades more." Chef Zhan had absolute confidence in his craftsmanship.

"Such an old cook like you definitely cannot outclass Boss Yuan." Wu Zhou was flustered and exasperated, but he still said with certainty.

"You go to tell that Boss Yuan. If he wants to sell the roast goose, come to me. Let me give him some guidance. Does a young man like him know how to distinguish between male and female geese?" Chef Zhan revealed a scornful look on his bony face.

"Compared with Boss Yuan's craftsmanship, yours is totally crap." Wu Zhou pointed to Chef Zhan and became very angry.

"If he's really so awesome, just come to me to have a match. And tell him don't be too scared to come when he hears of my signature dish, the best roast goose in the world." What kind of person do you think Chef Zhan was? He was a being who can fight with anybody for the sake of his geese.

"I don't have the ability to send for Boss Yuan here. If you are confident, why don't you go to Taoxi Road and head to his restaurant personally? But I suggest you not go there in case you lose face." Infuriated by Chef Zhan, Wu Zhou said directly.

"He's right. Since you are so confident, you can totally visit Boss Yuan's restaurant to have a look. After all, we are only his customers and really have no decent reason to ask him to eat dinner here." Zhuang Xinmu's ability with words was much higher than Wu Zhou's.

With a single sentence, she made Chef Zhan unable to say anything against them.

That's true. As the customers, if they said Chef Zhan's dish wasn't delicious, they definitely believed Boss Yuan's dish was excellent. Furthermore, it was not good for a head chef to request the customers to make an appointment for a match.

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# Chapter 440: Confrontation of Cold and Heat

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"This little girl is really skilled with words." Chef Zhan took a look at Zhuang Xinmu and then said.

"Thank you for your praise." Zhuang Xinmu nodded her head, without cold feet.

"You can go to check by yourself. This roast goose of yours is far from the best. You, surprisingly, named it the best roast goose." Wu Zhou said, unwilling to show weakness.

"Humph. Since you also know you are just here to eat, then you better stop giving orders." As a bad-tempered person, Chef Zhan answered immediately.

"Alright. We have finished trying the dishes. Manager Liao, we are leaving." Having paid no attention to the chef's rudeness, Zhuang Xinmu said to Manager Liao at the side.

"Okay. Little Mi, see our visitors to the door." Manager Liao agreed at once. Meanwhile, he signaled his sister to see them out.

"This way, please." The waitress Little Mi stood up, walked to the door and reached out her hand to show them the way.

"Good that you leave. At least you know how to behave in this situation." Chef Zhan snorted coldly.

"You old fart have neither good craftsmanship nor a way with words." Wu Zhou said quite angrily.

"What's it to you? Mind your own business." Chef Zhan didn't even look at him before he turned around and left the balcony quickly.

"Although this head chef doesn't have a good craftsmanship, he nevertheless has a really hot temper." Wu Zhou sneered and said to Manager Liao.

"Please bear with him. Please. Take care." Manager Liao followed them and talked to them to relieve the tension.

Having barely walked out of the door with quick steps, Chef Zhan took out the phone vibrating in the pocket and then answered and shouted without even looking at whom it was.

"Three people can't even take care of a goose? Good-for-nothing."

"Well, Head Chef Zhan, you told us to call you 5 minutes later just now..." There came a hesitant male voice from the phone.

"If I say 5 minutes, that's 5 minutes. What are you calling me now for? Have you not been weaned yet?" Chef Zhan continued scolding.

"Chef Zhan, it has been 7 minutes. You..." The male voice got lower this time.

"Do I need you to tell me how many minutes have passed? Don't you think I know that? Just watch your goose. If the skin was scorched even the slightest bit, you can go back home and raise the geese." In the same old way, Chef Zhan didn't let the man finish his words. His utterances became more unpleasant and even carried a threatening tone, as well.

However, he hung up the phone immediately after he said that. Only then did the man at the other end of the phone let out a sigh of relief.

"How did it go?" One of the other two people that watched the goose at the side asked immediately.

"What did Head Chef Zhan say?" Another man continued to ask.

"What did he say? You guys forced me to call him. Couldn't you hear the loud scolding?" The man that made the call pointed at the phone and said angrily.

"Hey hey. We wanted to ask if Head Chef Zhan told you anything else. If he did, we can finish it together." The man said



straightforwardly with a smile, not feeling embarrassed.

"Screw you. Head Chef Zhan is coming back in no time. You can ask him by yourself." The man that made the call set down the phone and began to stare at the goose attentively.

What a joke! At this moment, the goose was closely related to his own job. Of course, it was the goose that mattered.

"He's coming now? Well, we had better watch the goose now." The other two people immediately said in embarrassment.

Likewise, they began to watch the goose earnestly.

As a matter of fact, the goose was in the oven and they had already set the time. It was totally unnecessary for the three people to watch at the same time. It was just because Chef Zhan wasn't in a good mood.

"Humph. Is there anybody that makes better roast goose than me? He's simply talking nonsense." Chef Zhan muttered to himself angrily. Due to the anger, there was a flush on his face.

At the other side, Wu Zhou and Zhuang Xinmu weren't happy, either.

"Mu Mu, let's change to another restaurant. That chef is so bad-tempered and besides, the dishes are just ordinary. God knows where his confidence comes from." Wu Zhou took Zhuang Xinmu's hand and said gently.

"Okay. You decide." Zhuang Xinmu wasn't really very angry, but she still nodded her head obediently.

"Mu Mu, it's good as long as you aren't angry." Wu Zhou looked at Zhuang Xinmu's face carefully. Only when he found she really wasn't angry did he feel relieved.

The two lovers walked towards the parking lot together. Not long after, Wu Zhou suddenly said.

"No, this matter can't end up in this result. I got to make it

known throughout the internet and let the boss have no business. Humph." Wu Zhou revealed a manner of "I'm proud of being narrow-minded."

"Okay, okay. Do it as long as you feel good. Get on the car first and I will drive." Zhuang Xinmu was also willing to let her boyfriend retain his childish heart.

Wu Zhou's move truly made the regular customers of Yuan Zhou's restaurant got to know this restaurant, about its bad reputation, in particular.

After all, they were all in favor of Yuan Zhou's restaurant in their hearts.

In the evening,

At Chef Zhan's home,

"What's the matter with you? Is your goose dead?" Seeing his look of indignation, Chef Zhan's wife ridiculed him.

"Worse than that." Chef Zhan answered angrily.

"What exactly made you so angry?" His wife was a graceful aged woman. Hearing his husband, she asked curiously.

"Humph. You wouldn't understand." Chef Zhan had no interesting in telling her as it was really not a glorious event.

"Then stop pacing around me." His wife then said angrily.

"Yes, I got to go there for a look, personally." Chef Zhan slapped on the sofa and said seriously.

"This damn old guy starts to mumble to himself more as his age grows." Seeing Chef Zhan only go to the balcony to make a call, she didn't answer him anymore. She just enjoyed watching her TV.

Once he walked to the balcony, Chef Zhan started to make a call.

"Hello, is that General Manager Qin? I want to take a day off tomorrow." Chef Zhan said bluntly.

"What's the matter with you?" General Manager Qin was naturally the boss of the restaurant. Hearing the head chef ask for leave, of course he needed to ask for some details.

"I'm going to head out for a personal affair." Chef Zhan wouldn't tell him that he was going to watch others cook the roast goose. How degrading that would be!

"Are you okay?" General Manager Qin cared about that most.

"Pretty good. I can't be better. That's it." Chef Zhan frowned and said directly.

"Ok. If you need help, just come to me. Do come back after you finish your affairs." Hearing that, General Manager Qin felt relieved and then said courteously.

"It's none of your business. I can do it by myself." Chef Zhan immediately knitted his brows and refused him.

Whose help did he need when it came to roast goose? No one. His craftsmanship was the best.

"Okay. Have a good rest." GM Qin wasn't angry at all. Instead, he said with kind and pleasant countenance.

"Sure. You, too. I'm hanging up." Chef Zhan hung off the phone immediately after saying that.

While taking the phone, General Manager Qin nevertheless said helplessly, "This Chef Zhan really has a bad temper, but there's nowhere to find such a reputable chef."

That was also the reason why General Manager Qin treated Chef Zhan so courteously.

A high-end restaurant required not only good service but also a superior chef. Otherwise, the taste wouldn't be good enough to attract those customers."

However excellent the service was, customers mainly pursued good taste after they came three or five times. If the taste was just

ordinary, few people would come again. If both the taste and the service were good, customers would naturally come in crowds. However, good chefs seldom had a good temper.

Sometimes, the craftsmen were the same as those men of words. They were all prideful.

"Humph. This old man will see what kind of roast goose yours is tomorrow. I'm afraid it wouldn't reach 10% of my level." Chef Zhan took the phone and said to himself confidently.

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# Chapter 441: Murderous Intent

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As always, Yuan Zhou woke up at 5:00 a.m. early in the morning. He changed into his sportswear and went downstairs to jog.

His physical constitution was getting better and better. Even when he took the knife, he felt it lighter and more natural.

After all, the knife did have some weight. Besides, it can also increase his personal attraction. Therefore, Yuan Zhou certainly would persevere in doing his exercises.

After he returned and washed up, Yuan Zhou looked at the neat figure in the mirror and felt quite satisfied.

"The hair is cut moderately and looks clean and neat." Yuan Zhou shook his head in the mirror and observed his own hairstyle carefully.

"My complexion is also very good. It looks healthy and natural." While looking at his own face, Yuan Zhou nodded his head with satisfaction.

"I have a neat figure and abdominal muscles. Favorable comment." Yuan Zhou lifted up his clothes and said contentedly.

After Yuan Zhou returned to his room, he started to select the clothes that he was going to wear today.

Yuan Zhou had ordered many traditional Han clothing. Basically, all of them were embroidered with dark fringe lotus flowers, which conformed to the requirements of his own store flower.

"I'm going to wear this one today." Yuan Zhou picked up a piece of traditional Han clothing and began to put it on.

The clothes that Yuan Zhou selected today had a ring of dark silver lotus flower pattern at the cuff of the sleeves, exquisite lotus leaves at the neckband, and the lower hem as well as branches and tendrils on the waistband. On the whole, the color of the clothes

were a dark green.

The reason why he selected the clothes so meticulously was naturally because the agreed time of the shoot was exactly this afternoon.

As a prince charming, he naturally should have the aura of a prince charming, although Yuan Zhou totally didn't care about the filming.

During the breakfast time of a single hour, no one ever commented if Yuan Zhou was handsome. After all, the delicious food at hand was just what these foodies got up early for, although Yuan Zhou was indeed very handsome.

Yuan Zhou's appearance was finally noticed during the lunchtime and everyone began to tease him.

"Boss Yuan, you are so handsome today. Are you going to have a blind date like me?" Su Mu blinked his good-looking peach blossom eyes and asked jokingly.

"Don't waste time anymore. You are so good-looking, so no girls will select you as their boyfriend." While stroking his mustaches, Wu Hai first contradicted Su Mu and then said to Yuan Zhou with an evil smile.

"I think Boss Yuan is probably going on a blind date."

"With my professional knowledge in distinguishing single people for so many years, Boss Yuan is apparently still an authentic single man." Ling Hong pushed his non-existent glasses upward and then said.

"You know so much." Wu Hai took a look at Ling Hong.

"You are also a single guy that has been single for many years." Ling Hong counteracted his words without the least hesitation.

"It's none of your damned business," Wu Hai immediately burst out rude words.

After all, Ling Hong's words were a doubt to Wu Hai's male attractiveness. Naturally, Wu Hai had to safeguard his honor.

"Yes, you are right. It's the same situation for me." Yuan Zhou nodded his head right following Wu Hai's word.

Shameless words such as "There are quite a few girls who like me.", he would be too embarrassed to say it out alone. If others brought that out, however, he wouldn't refuse to chime in with him conveniently.

Then, the topic of their conversation naturally diverted from Yuan Zhou's new clothes to unknown places.

The boisterous lunchtime likewise passed very soon...

Yuan Zhou habitually smoothed his clothes before he sat down and took a rest. After that, he just waited there for the program division to come at the agreed time.

However, Chef Zhan that purposely came late still arrived before the program division.

"No. 14 of Taoxi Road. It's at this location." Chef Zhan took the phone and checked the map carefully.

Only when he arrived at the place did he raised his head and looked at Yuan Zhou's restaurant carefully.

Yuan Zhou's restaurant was still in the side street that had been cold and cheerless formerly, but was busy and boisterous now. Of all the former stores, there was only Boss Liu's hardware store, Boss Tong's dry cleaning shop and Yuan Zhou's restaurant left now. Other stores were all re-opened after Yuan Zhou's restaurant became prosperous.

As the three stores had been there for so long time, their shop signs were the oldest and thus appeared as if the objects were still there but the people had changed. However, Chef Zhan didn't have that feeling for he hadn't experienced such changes.

He just felt this Yuan Zhou's restaurant that was without even a shop sign was low, very low.

"It surprisingly doesn't even have a shop sign. Even a beggar knows to write personal experiences to put in front of them to seek people's sympathy. Doesn't this restaurant know to hang a shop sign?" Chef Zhan humphed coldly.

He looked at the restaurant again. It was still like before. Outside of the door was a wooden shelf on which there was nothing. Behind the shelf was a glass wall through which people could look into the restaurant clearly.

The kitchen was very deep. It seemed that everything inside was in order. From the outside, it appeared quite clean.

On the right side of the restaurant, there was a table for two and a curved long table with 8 chairs.

On the other side was a scenery wall, inside of which there were some pink creatures moving like petals.

"The restaurant is so narrow and the chairs are so small! What delicious dishes can be served in such a place?" Chef Zhan sniffed at Yuan Zhou's restaurant.

In his opinion, chefs with excellent craftsmanship wouldn't lack money at all. Those who had to cook here definitely didn't have a decent craftsmanship.

"Now that I'm here, why don't I witness personally how bad the chef cooks? Just to widen my horizons." Chef Zhan said with a prideful tone and then walked into Yuan Zhou's restaurant with a complacent manner.

"I'm sorry. Our lunch time has ended. Please come in the evening." Yuan Zhou thought he was a new customer and thus said politely.

"I'm the Head Chef Zhan of Goose Jin Xuan Restaurant. I heard that the roast goose served here is really tasty. Cook one for me to



taste." Having paid no attention to Yuan Zhou's words, Chef Zhan introduced himself politely and prepared to eat the goose.

Chef Zhan believed he was courteous in his own conceit, but Yuan Zhou didn't think that way. The cocky and arrogant manner almost overflowed from this person.

Regarding pride, Yuan Zhou wasn't poorer in that than anybody else. Upon hearing that, he said coldly, "Sorry, I've never heard of you. No customers are received except during the business time."

"Ho Ho. Little brat, let me tell you. It's of no use to pretend that you've never heard of me. This old man has roasted the goose throughout my life and have never been defeated. You are still too young to reach my level. Hurry up to serve it to me." Chef Zhan got seated swaggeringly and said impolitely with a sneer in his eyes.

"I told you to get out. We don't have the roast goose." Yuan Zhou knitted his brows this time.

Leaving his attitude aside, it was absolutely impossible for Yuan Zhou, who constantly pursued perfection, to serve this dish especially when his Elaborate Roast Goose hadn't reached the best condition.

Moreover, this person acted as if he were the third in the world after the heavens and the earth. Even if he was much older, Yuan Zhou still took him as an idiot.

"Little brat, you are scared now, huh? Why weren't you scared when you sent your people to my restaurant to pick on me yesterday?" Chef Zhan had always thought that Wu Zhou and Zhuang Xinmu went there to pick on him under the instigation of Yuan Zhou.

As for the matter that they were recommended by Yao Qing, he had already forgotten all about it.

"Please get out." Yuan Zhou stood up and said seriously with his brows knitted.

"That doesn't work on me. Now that you don't have that craftsmanship, you should go back into your mother's womb and practice it more." Chef Zhan wasn't afraid of intimidation. On hearing that, he also said loudly.

"Mother's womb?" Instantly, Yuan Zhou looked at Chef Zhan with his sharp gaze.

"Tsk. Yes, your mother's womb. I think you need to go back into it and practice your craftsmanship more." Chef Zhan wasn't as tall as Yuan Zhou, but his imposing manner wasn't less at all. He took a step forward and said boldly.

"Very good. You want to eat my goose? Go back and wait. Come on time at 12:00 p.m. tomorrow." When Yuan Zhou said that, he straightened his back and looked at Chef Zhan with his sharp gaze that contained murderous intent inside.

His parents had always been the forbidden zone in Yuan Zhou's heart. Finding that they were insulted now, Yuan Zhou immediately concentrated all of his imposing manner and directly held down Chef Zhan.

Nevertheless, Yuan Zhou looked at Chef Zhan who was stupefied and said again.

"Oh, right. Remember to take money with you. My goose is quite expensive. I'm afraid that you cannot afford it."

# Chapter 442: No Eating Unless You Line Up

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With his influential aura, Yuan Zhou looked at Chef Zhan face to face.

Nevertheless, Chef Zhan only snorted coldly. Without saying any word, he turned around and left.

As for Yuan Zhou, he just took a deep breath and then calmed down.

The telephone rang inappropriately just as Chef Zhan got out of the door angrily.

He took out the phone and saw the name of "Disciple" on the screen.

"What's the matter? Can't you work without me for one single day? Are you all without brains?" How could Chef Zhan say any good words since he was in a bad mood now?

"No, no, we aren't. We have something to report to you." Judging from the voice, it was obviously the man who had called Chef Zhan the previous day.

He had been scolded once when he called yesterday and today, he was scolded again.

"Speak. What are you, an adult man, dilly-dallying about for!" Chef Zhan said immodestly as usual.

"You have gone to that restaurant, haven't you? We have investigated it." The man at the other end of the phone said carefully.

"Yes, I'm here. What do you know about it? I'm still waiting for that damn young chef to cook the roast goose for me to eat tomorrow," said Chef Zhan undisguisedly.

"Master, that restaurant is indeed very reputable in the neighborhood and besides, it has been on TV recently. The chef

himself is quite awesome. Do you think we need to do something?" The man said carefully for fear of making Chef Zhan unhappy again.

"You think you are the only smart guy? I have already investigated that." Chef Zhan snorted.

Before his disciple had time to answer him, Chef Zhan continued saying, "I not only know he has wonderful culinary skills, but also that his parents have both died. Not a chance that he can outclass me."

"Ok, Master. I won't bother you anymore." Upon hearing that, his disciple said courteously with a frown.

"Umm. Go away." Chef Zhan said that rudely.

"Humph. He's merely a nobody." Chef Zhan snorted coldly. He took a look back at Yuan Zhou's restaurant and then left immediately.

Chef Zhan twisted the lion's tail and then left while Presenter Lu that had just arrived was a little stupefied.

"Boss Yuan, I have finished the preparatory work. Shall we start now?" Presenter Lu felt Yuan Zhou was extraordinarily influential today.

"Okay." Yuan Zhou nodded his head and brushed his clothes lightly at will.

Yuan Zhou was originally wearing the splendid Han clothing today. In addition, he did sports every day and thus kept a neat figure. Along with the earnest and serious expression as well as the upright back, Yuan Zhou's aura greatly soared.

"Well, alright. You can start now." Presenter Lu was also quite helpless in the heart.

He appeared quite normal yesterday. After one day, however, he looked a blade that had just been unsheathed.

Nonetheless, this appearance suited the taste of young girls. The image of an aloof prince charming was immediately revealed.

What Yuan Zhou was preparing to cook today were the two dishes of Jinling Grass and Sautéed Vermicelli with Spicy Minced Pork, which was quite easy for him.

Just like last time, Presenter Lu started to explain.

"Hello, my dear audience. Nice to see you, again. This is Folk Talent..." While uttering the opening remarks, Presenter Lu observed Yuan Zhou.

Only then did he get relieved and think inwardly, "Fortunately, he becomes placid again while cooking."

That's right. During the cooking process, Yuan Zhou regained his usual gentleness and his gaze likewise wasn't piercing anymore. Instead, he just watched the variations of the ingredients very carefully.

After the shooting, Yuan Zhou also found this problem. Therefore, he adjusted his mentality purposefully before dinner time.

After all, Chef Zhan's utterances related to his parents indeed made him very angry, but he didn't allow that to affect his customers.

Therefore, the dinner time passed peacefully.

Yuan Zhou had originally intended to make the roast goose after his hands were cured of the burns. However, now, the situation would not allow it to be that way.

"It seems that you still have to bear the heat." Looking at the burns on his hands, Yuan Zhou muttered to himself.

The pub on the second floor was immersed in a leisurely atmosphere while Yuan Zhou was starting to roast the goose on the first floor.

Yuan Zhou had learned the preparatory work quite well by heart, thus he did it better and more quickly this time. Until the goose was put in the ceramic oven to roast, every procedure was better than last time by 20 points. And that made Yuan Zhou fairly satisfied.

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Yuan Zhou had made two roast geese for the whole night, therefore he specially asked the system for a cabinet to retain its freshness.

What a joke! A roast goose was 3500g and two of them were 7000g. However good Yuan Zhou's appetite was, he couldn't finish them all.

After he finished roasting the two geese, Yuan Zhou was now quite familiar with the genuine cooking method of the dish, Elaborate Roast Goose and could make it to its utmost perfection. Only then did he wash up and go to rest.

Besides that, Yuan Zhou still got up early as before and didn't delay the breakfast time although he had stayed up very late.

At noon, Chef Zhan, that had asked for leave again, arrived at Yuan Zhou's restaurant. Moreover, he arrived quite early just to see what exactly Yuan Zhou could do.

He arrived at Yuan Zhou's restaurant at 11:20, when some customers had started to line up.

"Ho Ho. Does such a small restaurant really deserve a line?" There was some scorn revealed from Chef Zhan's tone.

"Probably, it's because there are too few seats and too many fools." Then, Chef Zhan answered himself.

He walked over to the restaurant swaggeringly. Of course, he didn't intend to line up, but prepared to go inside straightforwardly.

"I'm sorry. Please take your ID to line up and receive the number ticket. Only after that can you enter the restaurant and have a meal." The member of the queuing committee on duty today was Man Man. She was quite polite when facing old people.

"Little girl, this old man has made an appointment with your boss. I don't need to line up." The prideful tone of Chef Zhan had almost rushed into Yuan Zhou's restaurant and of course, Man Man got a little displeased.

However, she still said earnestly, "Boss Yuan will not receive people with bad behavior and will also blacklist them forever. I suggest you go to line up."

"What does a little brat know? Stay out of my way." Chef Zhan waved his hand discontentedly.

"It's one of my rules to line up. No exceptions. Of course, if you don't want to eat here, you don't need to line up." Man Man hadn't reacted when Yuan Zhou walked out and said to him directly.

"Ho Ho. Are you showing off in front of me? What if I don't line up today?" Chef Zhan became angry immediately at sight of Yuan Zhou's attitude that seemed to not recognize him. Thus, he said boldly.

"Sorry. You can't eat here. Please leave." After saying that, Yuan Zhou turned around and left at once, leaving Chef Zhan standing there.

"This little brat is really arrogant. I must give it a try." Chef Zhan said with anger and only then went to take the number ticket.

"Sir, please watch your number carefully. You can neither book in advance nor postpone it. It becomes invalid after the specified time." Of course, Man Man heard the scolding of Chef Zhan. For the sake of her duty, however, she went up and told him coldly.

# Chapter 443: Roast Goose That Made People Doubt Their Lives

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"This little girl is so young, but talks so much." Of course, Chef Zhan knew Man Man was in favor of Yuan Zhou, therefore he also replied her rudely.

"Yes, I can see that you are pretty old too, but still lack compassion," Man Man said smilingly.

"Even if I have compassion, I won't show to you, little girl." Chef Zhan mocked at her.

"Fine. Then, this unkind old gentleman, you just wait here patiently." Man Man waved her hands and didn't say anything else to him. She still had something else to do.

"Humph." Chef Zhan snorted coldly in response to Man Man.

"What an ill-mannered old man. I feel that Lee Yanyi is much better now." On hearing the cold snort, Man Man couldn't help muttering.

Man Man had formerly disliked Lee Yanyi the most, thinking he always complained about the dishes while eating them blissfully and was fairly troublesome. In contrast with the old guy, Chef Zhan, however; she instantly felt Lee Yanyi became lovable.

It was approaching 12:00 p.m. and the people were increasing. Nonetheless, Chef Zhan knitted his brows tighter and tighter.

"What's the matter? Is the business of this restaurant so good?" Chef Zhan's investigation mainly covered Yuan Zhou's family background. He didn't especially investigate how Yuan Zhou's business was, but there were indeed the few characters of "really not bad" on the paper.

Seeing such a small and narrow restaurant, however, Chef Zhan naturally didn't really take the few characters seriously. After all,



the size of the restaurant would largely restrict the development of the business.

"Hey, young man. Are the dishes here very delicious?" Chef Zhan couldn't help asking Wu Hai who's ahead of him.

"Are you asking me?" Wu Hai stroked his small mustaches and looked back at Chef Zhan.

"Who else can I ask except you?" Chef Zhan asked back with a tone of "You are talking nonsense.", but meanwhile he thought that something must be wrong with both the two customers that had encountered continuously.

"I think you are unlikely to know the taste by eating it." Wu Hai was a person whose temper had never been good.

"Why? Isn't it delicious?" Chef Zhan became excited immediately.

"Not really. It's just your mouth is too busy to eat the delicacies." Wu Hai shrugged and said as if it were obvious.

"Humph. Young people nowadays don't even know to respect the old." Chef Zhan understood that he had been fooled this time. He glared at Wu Hai severely.

"But you likewise don't love the young. So my respect means nothing to you." Wu Hai had heard the conversations among Chef Zhan, Yuan Zhou, and Man Man from the very beginning.

As an adult man, he just found it inappropriate to help them quarrel with an old man.

Yuan Zhou was the boss and thus could talk about the rules. However, he was just a customer and should not break into their conversation. But since this annoying old man came to provoke him on his own, Wu Hai wouldn't pass up this opportunity to contradict him.

"I won't talk to you anymore." Seeing Wu Hai fear nothing at all, Chef Zhan said that and left while Zhou Jia was announcing the

start of business hours.

"If you don't want to talk to me, then don't talk to me." After contradicting the old man, Wu Hai felt relieved at once, thinking that he should order one more dish later.

Once he entered the door, Chef Zhan said to Yuan Zhou, "Having kept me waiting for so long outside, you'd better succeed in researching a roast goose that deserves the wait."

"The roast goose you have ordered is 5888 RMB. You can pay by bank transfer or by cash." Yuan Zhou took no notice of Chef Zhan's provocation and just said straightforwardly.

As soon as Yuan Zhou brought out the price, the voices of ordering dishes paused a little while and every one fell silent.

"Tsk-tsk. This old man came for a challenge, didn't he?" The customer instantly turned their head and looked at Chef Zhan.

"Does he rip off every customer that orders this dish?" The price made Chef Zhan greatly astonished.

He wasn't unable to afford 5888 RMB, but just didn't think a roast goose could be that expensive. Even the roast goose cooked by himself was sold no more than 888 RMB. The price of Yuan Zhou's roast goose was a few times higher than that of his.

"If you can't afford it, we can split it half-half." Wu Hai immediately went up and said to him.

Naturally, his purpose wasn't to help Chef Zhan, but to eat the roast goose. What a joke! He had been eager to eat it. Now that there was such an opportunity, he would naturally seize it.

"Yeah, yeah. We can help you, too." Other customers immediately reacted.

Boss Yuan could cope with others picking on him very well. For the customers, the new dish of Roast Goose was the most important.

"Exactly. If you can't eat it up, you'll be blacklisted and won't have the opportunity to come again to pick on the boss. What about I share with you fifty fifty? You are welcome." Another man, whose hair was neatly combed, said with a sincere tone.

"He's right. Failure isn't fearful. What's really fearful is that you don't even have an opportunity to fail again. But, I can help you with that. Let's split the roast goose fifty fifty." Such suggestions could probably only be found in Yuan Zhou's restaurant.

These customers had truly racked their brains. They wanted to eat the roast goose, but meanwhile disliked Chef Zhan's rude attitude. Their words were definitely awesome!

They spoke as if Chef Zhan would not withstand a single blow and definitely wouldn't win, although it was indeed the truth.

"Stop quarrelling. I won't be deceived by you guys. If you like to eat it, you guys pay for yourselves." Chef Zhan naturally felt it was not worth it to spend 5888 RMB on Yuan Zhou's roast goose, not to mention it definitely wasn't as delicious as his.

As for the customers saying that he would necessarily fail, Chef Zhan didn't take it seriously at all. He wouldn't be frightened.

In order to allow Yuan Zhou carry out the roast goose and let Chef Zhan flee due to embarrassment, the customers reached a common understanding concerning the new dish.

They made a unanimous decision to split it into four parts.

"Payment comes before eating. Are you afraid of the customers not paying because of the bad taste?" While waiting for the new dish, Chef Zhan even started to complain about this rule.

"Be calm and patient! Then, eat the goose." Setting aside Chef Zhan's complaints, Yuan Zhou said that when he carried the goose to him.

"Little brat, when this old man began to taste the roast goose, you were still being nursed in your mother's arms." Chef Zhan said

ironically.

"I wish you still have the courage to say this after eating, Head Chef Zhan who has been cooking the goose for all your life." In the face of such a rude and arrogant chef, Yuan Zhou wouldn't be patient and courteous. Instead, he said quite earnestly to him.

"Ho Ho." Chef Zhan's answer fully explained everything.

He picked up the chopsticks and then began to taste the new dish.

The roast goose emphasized the crisp skin and tender meat as well as being non-greasy, which was known by all masters that cooked geese.

However, people's diet was getting better and better nowadays. Therefore, the food that wasn't greasy to the people formerly now became greasy. Chef Zhan's solution was to make a sourer plum sauce to eat along with the goose.

It was also regarded as a solution.

After all, people still had to select the fat goose. Otherwise, it would taste dry and chewy and wouldn't be delicious at all.

"This old man would like to taste your craftsmanship." Chef Zhan picked up a piece of goose meat that connected its neck and breast.

Generally speaking, that piece of meat had the most fat and would taste quite oily.

Since he was here to find faults, he naturally wouldn't eat it along with the plum sauce.

"Ba Ji Ba Ji". It was the sound of the goose meat being chewed up.

What entered his mouth first was the crisp and sweet skin, which bubbled up due to the roasting. Inside of the bubbles was a trace of an extremely sour flavor instead of fat. It was that sourness that not only made the crisp skin become not oily at all, but also brought a crisper taste into play.

When the teeth reached the fat under the skin, it was also not

oily. Even Chef Zhan had to admit it didn't taste like the fat, but a certain plump and tasty fruit flesh that melted upon entering the mouth along with the delicate fragrance and delicious meat flavor.

Under the fat was a thin layer of lean meat that wasn't chewy at all. Soaked in the oil and delicate fragrance of the green plum, it instantly made the goose meat in the mouth fresh and delicious. And there wasn't any oily feeling which could be tasted from the other roast geese.

Humans had evolved for so many centuries just to eat meat. These words had been deeply understood by Chef Zhan.

Just to eat such delicious meat.

A piece of oily meat was contrarily not oily at all and tasted fragrant throughout the mouth. The slightly chewy skin was crisp; the layer of fat was as fragrant as the fruit flesh combining with the meat flavor; the lean meat was also incredibly soft and tender. All these were the current feelings of Chef Zhan.

It was totally unscientific!

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# Chapter 444: Breaking One's Worldview

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"Impossible. That's unscientific." The several big characters had been circling around in Chef Zhan's brain.

Even so, the speed of Chef Zhan taking the dish became quicker but he himself didn't even realize that.

The goose meat was stuffed into his mouth continuously by pieces.

"Surprisingly, there're different tastes at different parts. How does he achieve that?" What Chef Zhan was eating now was the breast that was not chewy at all.

Generally speaking, this piece of meat usually tasted very dry.

When a chef cooked dishes with the breast, they usually diced or sliced it and then stir-fried it quickly.

Nonetheless, the roasted breast was usually very hard to chew. After all, there was only a thin layer of skin over the breast rather than the thick fat. Therefore, it always became hard to chew after roasting.

However, the piece of meat in his mouth was totally different from that. Wrapped by the thin brown and crisp skin, the slightly chewy breast tasted as if a piece of meat was teared up slowly and the fragrance was getting stronger and stronger. Eating it along with the skin that bubbled due to the roasting, it was really an amazing enjoyment.

"Why isn't the breast of the goose chewy at all?" Chef Zhan felt it unbelievable as he picked it to eat again.

While muttering it was impossible, Chef Zhan contrarily ate the goose blissfully.

"I haven't eaten the sauce. Perhaps, the sauce is quite unpalatable." Chef Zhan suddenly caught sight of the plum sauce

in the small coarse porcelain plate at hand.

The plum sauce prepared by Yuan Zhou was filled in a palm-sized, coarse, porcelain plate.

It was different from Chef Zhan's practice of adding the fruit flesh to increase the sourness. There were pieces of petal-like things in the beautiful amber pectin.

It looked refreshing and beautiful.

"They are the petals. But aren't the petals bitter?" Chef Zhan felt it puzzled, however, the current situation didn't allow him to think more.

After all, his taste bud was urging him to enjoy the delicacy in front of him frantically.

He picked up a piece of goose meat and couldn't wait to stuff it into his mouth along with the sauce.

Dipped in the amber sauce, the originally brownish red goose skin looked even more smooth and glossy and increased people's appetite.

"Ba Ji Ba Ji". Having stuffed it into his mouth, Chef Zhan couldn't help giving a start.

"Hiss..." It was the natural reaction of humans' body when they were stimulated by the sourness.

As the sour plum sauce wrapped the goose meat, it gave people an extremely sour feeling once it entered the mouth and then stimulated a lot of saliva immediately. Therefore, Chef Zhan couldn't help chewing it.

As soon as the meat was bitten apart, the gravy contained in the goose meat instantly burst out under the stimulation of the sourness and thus gave him a fresh and fragrant feeling while the sourness disappeared at that time. Following that was the fresh and intrinsic sweet taste of the plums.

After a piece of petal was eaten along with the sauce, the delicate fragrance and slightly bitter texture of the petal directly gave the goose meat multiple layers of taste.

Chef Zhan was absolutely unable to decline such a delicacy. Unknowingly, he had eaten up the entire goose and all the plum sauce.

"Have I actually eaten up all the goose meat?" Chef Zhan was a little stupefied.

"Hua La". Chef Zhan supported his upper body with his hands on the table and stood up suddenly, which made him collide with the chair and cause a loud sound. However, this action only attracted the other customers' attention.

After all, it interrupted them enjoying the delicious dish. Those who didn't care about that were only Chef Zhan and Yuan Zhou, who was cooking earnestly.

"Little brat, how did you cook the dish? What did you do to remove the oil of the goose? That's totally impossible." Chef Zhan pointed at Yuan Zhou and said impolitely.

"Hey. Even if you want to ask about that, you have to be at least polite to him. Watch your words." A customer waiting at the side said discontentedly.

"How is it possible? Did you use any crooked ways? How could you remove the greasy feeling so perfect? Even the bitterness of the petals was the best catalyst of the taste. How is it possible?" Chef Zhan took no notice of the customers' words, but just stared at Yuan Zhou and asked him.

"You tell me how you got rid of the grease." Chef Zhan moved in the wake of Yuan Zhou's steps.

"Tell me. Tell me how you achieved that. How exactly did you achieve that?" Chef Zhan craned his neck and looked at Yuan Zhou.



"Egg Fried Rice Set." Yuan Zhou first carried up the set meal and set it on the table.

Not taking notice of Chef Zhan who had lost control at all.

"You shouldn't be able to outclass me even if you began to roast goose before you were born." Chef Zhan got hold of the sleeves of Yuan Zhou's Han clothing.

"I'm sorry. I'm under no obligation to tell you anything. If you have finished your meal, please leave. It's inconvenient for you to stay here longer." Yuan Zhou stared at Chef Zhan's hands and said indifferently.

Stared at by Yuan Zhou, Chef Zhan let go of his hands subconsciously, but he didn't intend to give up after he heard that. Instead, he started to move in the wake of Yuan Zhou.

"I won't leave unless you tell me. Hurry up to tell me." Chef Zhan asked persistently.

"Hey. He doesn't want to tell you. Why are you still staying here shamelessly? Who gave you the courage to force others to tell you?" Wu Hai stood up and made room for others before he stood in front of Chef Zhan and said to him with a languid manner.

"It's none of your business. Stay out of my affairs." Chef Zhan said rudely.

"Yeah, of course it's none of my business. But you are in my way." Wu Hai said while pointing at Chef Zhan in front of him.

Seeing Chef Zhan become angry, Wu Hai continued saying.

"What? I can't even say something when you are in my way just because you the elderly?" After saying that, Wu Hai laughed with irony.

"Yeah. You walked here and there and have really affected me having my meal." Another customer also raised his head and said that.

"Exactly. Why does he have to teach you since you are not his disciple?" Other customers began to chime in with him one after another.

"Judging from your title, you are also a chef. Many chefs want to ask Boss Yuan for his advice, so you must maintain order and line up." The customers had already felt sick of Chef Zhan and thus stood up for Yuan Zhou voluntarily.

"That's right. Why does he have to tell you?" Man Man also nodded her head and said at the side.

"You are Chef Zhan, aren't you? I'm Master Cheng." Master Cheng also went up and said to him.

"I think you have affected the business of this restaurant. Besides, Boss Yuan doesn't have the obligation and reason to tell you. On behalf of the Association of Chefs, I hereby notify you that if you continue pestering Boss Yuan endlessly, you'll be punished." Master Cheng was quite mild.

However, he still allowed Chef Zhan to leave.

However high and mighty Chef Zhan had been when he just entered the restaurant, however upset and embarrassed he was now. The customers all rose in a mass to attack him. All his confidence was destroyed by such a perfect roast goose.

All that made him unable to accept the situation.

"It doesn't matter even if you don't tell me. I can study it by myself. Anyhow, I have been cooking the goose all my life." Chef Zhan said that loudly.

Behind the loud voice was his panic, an unknown panic even to Chef Zhan.

After saying that, Chef Zhan turned around and got out of the restaurant directly.

He didn't even drive his car, but just took a cab back to Goose

Jinxuan Restaurant. Then, he walked through the gate in quick steps and arrived at the kitchen.

"I will use the small kitchen now. Send all the geese here and, you guys, stay out." Chef Zhan moved quickly. Once he entered the door, he instructed his disciples.

"All the geese are sent here and they all in the preservation tank." The kitchen helper finished the work quickly and reported to him meticulously.

"Get out." Accompanying the answer was the sound of Chef Zhan shutting the door.

"What's wrong with him?" The workers whispered in each other's ears curiously.

However, Chef Zhan was unable to see that.

He shut himself in the small kitchen for the whole night. Unlike Yuan Zhou's ceramic jar where only one goose could be roasted, Chef Zhan's oven was so big that it could hold 8 geese.

"No, it's still not the right taste. What exactly is the problem?" Chef Zhan murmured to himself continuously.

It was barely light outside. Stacked around Chef Zhan were some roast geese of which the grease had coagulated and some other that were steaming. The kitchen was full of the roast geese and Chef Zhan was just sitting among them.

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# Chapter 445: Quarrel

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Just when Chef Zhan was struck by Yuan Zhou's elaborate Roast Goose and couldn't think rationally a few minutes earlier, a most vehement quarrel arose between Wu Zhou and Zhuang Xinmu.

"Tell me why you said that in those circumstances." Zhuang Xinmu was usually a beautiful and mild girl, but she was also terrifying when she was stone-faced.

"I told you. If he can't rank the first in the world, he isn't the first. Is there any problem with it?" With his brows knitted tight, Wu Zhou felt quite puzzled.

"You can just tell me after we get out of that restaurant. Why did you say that and make others so embarrassed? They have been very considerate not to drive us out." Zhuang Xinmu couldn't understand her boyfriend.

"Why can't we say that there? I just wanted to tell him about that to his face. Why are you arguing with me?" Looking at Zhuang Xinmu, Wu Zhou didn't understand what was going on.

"Why did I argue with you? Do you know what Yao Qing said to me today? She said what we did today was so shameful. We were introduced to eat there by her. Didn't you know that? Then why did you say that in the restaurant?" Zhuang Xinmu looked at Wu Zhou indignantly.

"I know. But I was telling the truth." Wu Zhou didn't really understand what went wrong.

"Do you want me to tell lies?" He looked at Zhuang Xinmu with an unbelievable tone.

"I am not saying I want you to tell lies. But can't you just refrain yourself from speaking that out? We are selecting a restaurant for our wedding." Zhuang Xinmu shouted out of control.

"Then what do you want me to do?" Wu Zhou stood up and also

got angry.

"Come out and say that to me. Can't you even do that?" Zhuang Xinmu asked helplessly.

"I just wanted to tell the truth." Wu Zhou still persisted his opinion.

"Good. We'd better calm down for a while." After saying that, Zhuang Xinmu turned around and left.

"What mistake did I make?" Looking at Zhuang Xinmu leave, Wu Zhou felt both worried and helpless.

He thought ceaselessly what his mistake was, but didn't think of an answer.

In Wu Zhou's opinion, if the roast goose wasn't the best, it wasn't. He just brought out his thoughts. Besides, the one that couldn't accept his judgement and persistently required an explanation was that chef. He just didn't agree with him declaring himself to be the first in the world. There wasn't a problem.

However, Wu Zhou well understood the principle that girlfriends were to be coaxed. Therefore, he immediately began to call her to admit his mistake and apologize.

Nonetheless, Zhuang Xinmu acted as if she had made up his mind. She insisted that Wu Zhou tell him what mistake he had made.

Believing that he made no mistake, Wu Zhou didn't actually know what to say. As the matter going on, Zhuang Xinmu didn't answer his phone anymore.

One day, two days. Wu Zhou couldn't wait anymore, thus he immediately called Jiang Changxi.

They said something on the phone and in the end, Jiang Changxi agreed to help him.

"This guy really takes me as his love consultant." Jiang Changxi

hung up the phone, feeling it quite amusing.

It was actually because she often talked about young girls' thoughts in the restaurant to ridicule Yuan Zhou and Wu Zhou bore it in mind. Therefore, he came to ask her for help.

"Boss Yuan, can you do me a favor?" Jiang Changxi said bluntly.

"I don't have money." It was Yuan Zhou's first reaction.

What a joke! Jiang Changxi was a boss of a company. If she wanted to borrow his money, it would definitely be a big sum.

"Nor a free meal." Having thought for a while, Yuan Zhou added.

"Tsk. You are thinking too much. Here's the thing..." Jiang Changxi rolled her eyes helplessly.

No wonder Yuan Zhou had that reaction. After all, these were the only two ways that Jiang Changxi ridiculed Yuan Zhou. Well, at least Yuan Zhou understood it that way.

There was always someone that wanted to cheat his money.

"I will act according to the rules." Yuan Zhou nodded and then said that.

"Okay. That's all. See you in the evening." After Jiang Changxi said that, she hung up the phone cleanly, which was a rare occurrence.

"She's rarely so decisive." Yuan Zhou put down the phone.

Jiang Changxi's solution was very simple. She decided to treat Zhuang Xinmu to dinner in Yuan Zhou's restaurant.

Since they would eat over here, they naturally agreed on meeting at the door.

When Zhuang Xinm arrived, she didn't see Wu Zhou. It was unknown whether she felt relieved or disappointed, but she still went up and greeted Jiang Changxi.

"Sister Jiang, good evening." Zhuang Xinmu smiled politely.

"Don't stand on ceremony. I like no one but young and beautiful girls." Jiang Chang touched the face of Jiang Changxi with her hand.

"Thank you all the same for your treat." Zhuang Xinmu blushed instantly.

"You are welcome. Let's go, young beauty." Jiang Changxi behaved like a female rogue.

"Sister Jiang is also so beautiful." Zhuang Xinmu complimented her, too.

Women's friendship took place very quickly, especially when Jiang Changxi had designed that. Even if her behavior was exaggerated, it anyhow narrowed their distance. When they got seated in Yuan Zhou's restaurant, they had been very good friends.

Zhuang Xinmu was merely a clerk while Jiang Changxi became a general director through her struggle. While facing her, Zhuang Xinmu admired and respect her very much.

Besides, she even felt proud of Jiang Changxi approaching her in this way.

Seeing that her purpose achieved, Jiang Changxi also began to signal to Yuan Zhou.

The signal of the two people was to order the dishes.

"Boss Yuan, take my order, please," said Jiang Changxi generously.

"You haven't been here for some days. Boss Yuan has served a new dish. It's said to be very delicious." While ordering the dishes, Jiang Changxi talked with Zhuang Xinmu.

"Um. Boss Yuan's craftsmanship is always incomparable." Zhuang Xinmu suddenly thought of Wu Zhou and didn't seem to be in a good mood.

"Two servings of Frog Cake." Jiang Changxi directly ordered.

"One serving for each of you?" Yuan Zhou asked dutifully.

"No. I want two servings alone." Jiang Changxi said seriously.

"I'm sorry. According to my rules, everyone can only order one serving for each meal." Yuan Zhou said solemnly.

"Have you forgotten the rules since you haven't been here for the recent few days? When can the customers here order two servings at a time?" Wu Hai mocked Jiang Changxi loudly.

"I don't care. I just want to eat two servings. Anyhow, I'm a regular customer." Jiang Changxi said earnestly.

"According to the rules, you can't." Yuan Zhou shook his head.

"Sister Jiang, Boss Yuan does have this rule. What about you eat mine?" Seeing many customers looking at them, Zhuang Xinmu stopped Jiang Changxi and said with embarrassment.

"Yours is yours. I just want to eat two servings today." Jiang Changxi shook her head and refused.

"But..." Zhuang Xinmu still wanted to say something, but was interrupted by Jiang Changxi.

"What if I want to eat two servings of the Frog Cake?" Jiang Changxi patted on her own chest and asked seriously.

"Sorry. It's not allowed in my restaurant." Yuan Zhou likewise answered earnestly.

"Are you sure." Jiang Changxi continued asking toughly.

"Yes." Yuan Zhou nodded his head.

"Alright. One serving, please." Jiang Changxi instantly admitted defeat.

"Hoo..." Zhuang Xinmu let out a sigh of relief. It would be quite shameful to be driven out. Luckily, Jiang Changxi didn't insist anymore.

"Please wait a moment." Yuan Zhou nodded his head and then



went back.

"It seems that I have acted quite well and there isn't any problem. Fortunately, I'm in the cooking circle, but too bad there is now a movie king missing." Yuan Zhou looked at Zhuang Xinmu that became relieved from the former embarrassment and then thought complacently.

That's right. This play was specially acted just for Zhuang Xinmu.

"Are you frightened? Boss Yuan is nothing but an inflexible and stubborn boss. If not for him having a wonderful cooking ability, God knows what his business will be." Jiang Changxi looked at Zhuang Xinmu and said that.

"Boss Yuan is adhering to his principles. Nowadays, there are less and less people who believed in principles rather than the money. This kind of foolishness is quite lovable." Zhuang Xinmu said.

"It's good as long as you feel the foolishness is lovable." Jiang Changxi's words meant more than she said.

Zhuang Xinmu, "..."

# Chapter 446: Persistence

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There was something else contained in Jiang Changxi's sentence, but Zhuang Xinmu wasn't sure whom she was talking about.

"If you feel that foolishness is lovable, why did you still quarrel with him?" Jiang Changxi asked.

"I know he's also such kind of person." There were only a bitter smile and a look of pampering on Zhuang Xinmu's beautiful face.

"Then how do you feel?" Jiang Changxi asked Zhuang Xinmu seriously while looking at her.

"I have been with him for so long time and I know from the very beginning that he is pretty stubborn and doesn't know the way of the world. But what can I do?" Zhuang Xinmu revealed a helpless manner in his tone.

"Everyone is different." Jiang Changxi nodded his head.

"I know there's nothing bad about this kind of person. But the society needs smooth and sophisticated people more." Zhuang Xinmu sighed.

"It's better for a man to be smooth and sophisticated. Can you think of anybody as stubborn as Boss Yuan in this society?" Jiang Changxi suddenly said loudly.

"Why isn't it acceptable for one to eat two servings at a time? It's our own business whether to waste food or not. But he surprisingly made a rule that anyone that wastes food will be blacklisted. He's simply a fool for not making money sent to him." Jiang Changxi pointed at Yuan Zhou and said.

"This is my rule." Yuan Zhou was quite earnest when he said that.

"Then you are a fool." Jiang Changxi nodded her head conclusively.

Yet, other customers at the side saw something from the scene.

They saw Yuan Zhou just staying silent and smile kindly even when he was scolded as a foolish person.

"However, I think persistence isn't necessarily bad. Perhaps just because of that, Boss Yuan can cook so well." After Jiang Changxi ridiculed Yuan Zhou, she turned her head and said to Zhuang Xinmu.

"Right. Persistence might be good." Zhuang Xinmu was slightly absent-minded as she obviously thought of something.

Instead of interrupting her, Jiang Changxi just looked at silently.

In just a few minutes, Zhuang Xinmu came to herself. She took a look at Jiang Changxi in embarrassment and then said, "Thank you, Sister Jiang."

"Boss Yuan, I didn't order the dishes. If I leave now, will you think I waste food and blacklist me?" Zhuang Xinmu suddenly stood up and asked Yuan Zhou before she turned around.

"No, I won't do that." Yuan Zhou nodded his head.

"Good." After saying that, Zhuang Xinmu left there with quick steps.

Once she got out of the restaurant, Zhuang Xinmu dialed that familiar phone number.

"Hey. It's the dinner time, but I still haven't eaten dinner. Why don't you treat me to a western-style meal, the kind that's very romantic?" Once the phone was put through, Zhuang Xinmu said immediately.

"Okay, okay, okay. I can treat you for my whole life. Where are you? I'll come to pick you up." Wu Zhou immediately answered.

Then, the couple of lovers started to have a sweet talk and flaunt their relationship.

In the restaurant, everyone became delighted and started the daily jokes, again.

"I have never thought you had such a kind-hearted side." Wu Hai began to ridicule Jiang Changxi while looking at her.

"Of course. This female celestial is a person of many faces. Do you want to try?" Jiang Changxi was quite sharp-tongued when she ridiculed Wu Hai.

"No, I don't have the luck to enjoy it." Wu Hai refused her right away.

"So this Boss Yuan who have behaved so perfectly, what reward do you want?" Jiang Changxi looked at Yuan Zhou with her watery eyes.

"No need. I was just telling the truth." Yuan Zhou refused her bluntly.

The way he talked was as if to say, "Don't even think of making me forget that you haven't paid for the Frog Cakes."

"What an idiot that lacks the sense of romance!" Jiang Changxi supported her forehead with her hand.

"Thanks for coming." Yuan Zhou pointed at the menu and then said.

"I have made the bank transfer. I won't run away from my debts." Jiang Changxi almost wanted to beat him.

Leaving reality aside, even if it was in a novel, when a beautiful female general director was in front of a man, shouldn't he directly push her down?

Only Yuan Zhou revealed a manner of "you are plotting to murder me," in front of a beauty.

When it was 10:00 p.m. again, the program, Folk Talent, of Chengdu TV started to broadcast on time.

Those who waited by the TV were not only the foodies but also the middle-aged people that enjoy the folk artists, including lonely old people, naturally.

The current popularity of the program could be seen. However, the program was getting more and more popular due to the trailer broadcasted last time.

After all, it was a world dominated by foodies and those who pursued good appearance only.

Yuan Zhou happened to hold both advantages so, of course, he was popular among the audiences.

"Hello, everyone. This is the Folk Talent. It's so nice to see you again." The sunny and handsome appearance of Presenter Lu appeared on TV.

"We have read our audiences' letters ever since the episode of Boss Yuan sculpting was broadcasted last time. In response to your request, we came to Yuan Zhou's restaurant, again." As soon as Presenter Lu turned around, the audiences saw the door of Yuan Zhou's restaurant without the shop sign behind him.

The sunshine was bright when Presenter Lu arrived here for the filming. And the sun rays happened to fall on Yuan Zhou's body.

The warm and golden sunshine collided with Yuan Zhou's solemn and aloof temperament, which made Yuan Zhou's aura surpass Presenter Lu instantly.

"What the f\*ck! He's merely a chef. Is it really necessary to be so handsome?" A young man in front of the television immediately let out a cry.

Just after he ridiculed, he saw Yuan Zhou nod to the camera indifferently, again.

"Tsk. Even a chef is so handsome now! What shall I, a white-collar elite, do?" The young man was also a foodie. Although he ridiculed Yuan Zhou, he was likewise waiting to see the delicacy to be displayed later.

"What is he wearing? It does not seem to be a chef's uniform." An old man that was watching TV didn't quite understand.

"It's the informal dress of the Han clothing. It's very easy and convenient to wear." His granddaughter explained to him.

"It's so rare that you, little girl, would watch TV with us." The grandpa looked at his granddaughter and joked with her.

"Aha, it's because this program is awesome." The little girl was a little shy.

She can't say that she watched this program because of the delicious food and Yuan Zhou's handsome face.

"Um, yes. My granddaughter is always right." The grandpa nodded his head smilingly.

Presenter Lu was asking Yuan Zhou what he prepared to cook on the program.

"One is Jinling Grass and the other is Sautéed Vermicelli with Spicy Minced Pork." Yuan Zhou answered peacefully.

While speaking of that on TV, Yuan Zhou appeared quite peaceful except for his influential aura and his strong sense of existence.

Only Presenter Lu on site knew how much pressure he had while facing Yuan Zhou.

However, that was what made the audiences feel that Yuan Zhou was a genuine chef who turned cooking into an art rather than a chef that purely had some cooking skills.

"Boss Yuan looks more attractive on TV." The girl thought inwardly.

Without moving in the first episode, Yuan Zhou was judged by others to be a craftsman that had inherited the ancient skills. In this episode, however, Yuan Zhou was like a master-level artist.

Each dish gained vitality and a sense of art in Yuan Zhou's hands.

At the end of the episode, however, a hint of dry humor was added into the program. Of course, that all benefited from the

question that Yuan Zhou specially asked Presenter to add.

"Boss Yuan, what will you say if you had to give a reason why people come here for meals?" With a cunning smile on the face, Presenter Lu asked especially.

Just when the audiences in front of televisions all guessed it might be his craftsmanship or something else, Yuan Zhou uttered.

"Because the boss is handsome; I'm handsome; I myself is handsome." Yuan Zhou said primly and immodestly.

His tone was filled with "It should have been obvious anyway."

# Chapter 447: Anti-fraud Specialist

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Once Yuan Zhou said that, he made the audiences nearby become curious about him. Moreover, it was understandable that they wanted to go and try the taste.

As a result, Yuan Zhou's first step of the mission was completed.

Theoretically, the fine food streamer, Meng Meng, and the little prince of new dishes, Ma Zhida, would usually come whenever Yuan Zhou served a new dish, besides the usual customers.

However, the streamer that came this time wasn't the lovable Meng Meng, but another streamer.

This streamer was different from all other streamers.

First of all, she was dressed plainly in a beige wind coat, white shirt, and black business pants. Her appearance was above average and she had a pair of big eyes that darted about smartly, which made her appear smart and cute.

She called herself the Fighting Guardian or the anti-fraud specialist while her streamer nickname was Da Da. She wasn't holding a phone in her hands for the live streaming. Instead, she just wore a bluetooth earphone alike to an earring and a brooch alike to a lily that was about to blossom on her breast. It was the webcam.

This was a live streaming matched with speech sounds.

In other words, she could talk to the audiences in real time with the bluetooth earphone.

"I have made some investigations. The dishes in this Yuan Zhou's restaurant are indeed delicious, but the price is just extravagant. It's just much more than 'expensive'." The melodious voice of the streamer Da Da carried some affirmation.

"See? We were right. Just expose it and make such a deceitful



restaurant unable to do business anymore." There immediately passed an indignant resentful female voice from the earphone.

"Exactly. Da Da, be careful! I heard the boss has his people in charge of queuing matters. There might be hired thug among them." A man said considerately with a gentle voice.

"I believe that even if the dishes are delicious, they can't be so expensive. So the boss definitely has an influential background." The person who said that analyzed calmly and composedly.

"Um. I know it has even been on TV recently." Da Da looked at Yuan Zhou's restaurant secretly with her tone filled with justice.

"That's why you have to be careful. If you can film some useful information, that would be great. If you need help, let's keep in touch with the agreed secret signals as usual." It was a composed and mature female voice that gave the final word.

"Okay, got it. I'm going right now." Da Da answered seriously. Then she went up to line up like an ordinary customer and waited to eat.

Seeing Da Da go to line up from in the video, her audiences all fell silent. Of course, they all attributed the silence to the supervisor in the steamer room.

The supervisor was the man with the gentle male voice.

As for how the matter originated and why Da Da, this anti-fraud streamer, came to Yuan Zhou's restaurant for investigation, it was easy to explain.

Nowadays, the live streaming industry was quite popular. There were various kinds of live streaming, but Da Da wanted to make a different one. When she saw somebody drop litter in a street the other day, she came up with such an idea.

"Maybe I can live stream these kinds of phenomenon to arouse others' attention." Da Da patted her head and then said.

She intended to capture these uncivilized actions on her live stream to let people know about these rude behaviors. Of course, those who were filmed definitely didn't know that, but Da Da still covered their faces with the mosaics considerately.

After all, these uncivilized actions may be big or small, but no one had the right to expose the face of those who were involved on the internet. Hence, Da Da paid special attention to these factors. Just like that, she received more and more attention and finally became popular.

From then on, if there was any discharge of pollution from factories, Da Da would especially go there to make a live stream and then post it on the internet. She would also take a risk to go film kitchens with her hidden camera if there was a restaurant that was voted by her fans to be the dirtiest.

It was basically mostly about such kind of things. As the dishes in Yuan Zhou's restaurant were much too extravagant for them to bear, Yuan Zhou was complained by Da Da's fans as cheating the consumers, which was the cause of Da Da coming here today.

However, Da Da never fought a war unprepared; therefore, she investigated a lot about Yuan Zhou.

Nevertheless, they were all basically favorable comments like "Yuan Zhou was so handsome." or "The dishes are so delicious." Not a single unfavorable comment could be found on the internet.

The most important reason that caused Da Da to come was that menu.

"What the f\*ck! Is the Egg Fried Rice golden? How can it be worth 188 RMB? Why doesn't he just go rob someone?" It was Da Da's first reaction.

"Wait. Is this the price of the tea egg? 1888 and RMB? How fearful!" When Da Da saw the price of the tea egg, she felt quite helpless.

"Formerly, there was a very stupid entertainment program calling for a crowdfunding with the purpose of visiting an island for vacation and eating oyster omelets. I just smiled at that. But now I want to say, crowdfunding is necessary here to eat a tea egg." Da Da looked at the menu bitterly.

Mostly, the posts in the gourmet forum spoke highly of the delicious dishes served in Yuan Zhou's restaurant. Occasionally, those who doubted the prices would be brainwashed with the single sentence, "You'll know if they deserve the prices after you eat."

"Do you take yourself as that advertisement that declares 'Whoever uses knows.?' " In the face of that single sentence "You'll know if they deserve the prices after you eat," all over the screen, Da Da ridiculed speechlessly.

A tea egg costs 1888 RMB; an Egg Fried Rice costs 188; a bowl of noodles costs 268 RMB. Da Da felt it would be a humiliation to her title of Anti-fraud Specialist if she didn't come to investigate.

"But why hasn't the Association of Consumers banned such a restaurant?" Da Da searched the relevant information curiously.

Yuan Zhou's restaurant had clearly stated the price of the dishes and besides, written them in large numbers. Basically, everyone could know the prices as soon as they turned the head and took a look at the menu. Even if they didn't know, Yuan Zhou's restaurant had still clearly stated the price.

So, the Association of Consumers really had no right of jurisdiction over this matter.

"What a sinister trick!" Da Da read the clauses of the Association of Consumers discontentedly.

"It doesn't matter. If they don't punish the restaurant, I will do the work in my own way." Da Da thought of her popularity and clenched her fist energetically.

After Da Da discussed this issue with the seniors in the group, however, she guessed there might be someone with an influential background behind the boss. Nonetheless, Da Da wasn't afraid.

She just wanted to expose the very high prices and that the fame of his restaurant did not match reality.

After she weighed the gains and loss, only then did she take action.

"When do you think Boss Yuan will serve the goose that he served yesterday again? I almost couldn't stop my slobber from flowing out of my mouth." The customer ahead of Da Da suddenly said that.

"How would I know that?" The person who was asked answered him angrily.

"Hey-hey. You yourself are to blame for not being quick and deft yesterday. You just don't know the taste of the goose meat. It's simply perfect." The person revealed an intoxicated expression while speaking of that.

"What are you complacent for? I will buy one next time and you can't eat it." The other one gnashed his teeth and said that.

"That goose is 5888 RMB, each. You were even reluctant to pay 1/4 of that amount yesterday and you dare to say you will buy an entire one." The person turned up his nose at the other when he said that.

"I will come every two months to eat the goose once." The other one seemed to have made up his mind and even thought of a solution.

"Wait. I'm sorry, but I am here for the first time. What dish is so expensive making it as high as 5888 RMB per serving?" Da Da tried to make herself look curious rather than astonished.

However, she couldn't help complaining frantically in her heart, "A goose is worth 5888 RMB? Does it lay golden eggs?"

"It's the Elaborate Roast Goose newly served by Boss Yuan. The taste is, tsk-tsk, awesome! You'll want one more after you eat one and one more after you eat two." The customer ahead of Da Da told her enthusiastically.

"But the price is too..." Da Da really couldn't help but say that.

"It is indeed expensive, but the craftsmanship well deserves the price. Sigh. Unluckily, I'm unable to eat it today." The person still felt a little pity.

Da Da became more steadfast in her heart.

"I must give it a taste. Why exactly can it be sold for such a high price?"

However, she was also a little bewildered. Many people told her the dishes here were delicious. But even so, they can't that expensive.

There was definitely something that didn't make sense.

## Chapter 448: Soy Sauce Rice

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"Lunchtime commences now. The first ten customers please come in for your meal." Zhou Jia stood at the door and said with a smile.

"Hoo... Luckily, I'm No. 9." Da Da looked at the number ticket in her hand and then said.

"The queuing machine is good. I can finally have a meal in the first round." A customer in the front said blissfully.

"Exactly. If not, we can never compete against those who always have money and time." Another customer likewise said indignantly.

He was naturally talking about Wu Hai and Ling Hong, etc.

Although they still had the geographic advantage, the situation was truly better than before.

"Is the business of this restaurant so prosperous?" Da Da had intended to say it in the mind, but nevertheless blurted it out carelessly.

"Haha, of course. Look! These people are all here to eat lunch. When there wasn't this queuing machine previously, the whole street was crowded with customers." The customer ahead of him told him while walking forward.

"But I heard the dishes here are very expensive, aren't they?" Da Da was surprised at first when she heard the answer. Then she asked subtly.

"Yes, it's expensive. But it doesn't matter if it is eaten once in a while." The customer said smilingly.

"Yeah. We are here to enjoy the delicacies and Boss Yuan's craftsmanship." After saying that, another customer couldn't wait to enter the restaurant.

"Is it really so miraculous?" Da Da followed them into the restaurant with puzzlement.

As soon as he entered the restaurant, Da Da felt a burst of warmth. However, it wasn't like the warmth from the air-conditioner, but instead, like the lively warmth of vitality in Spring.

"It's fairly warm." Da Da whispered. Then, she looked back at the price list on the wall, which was what she came for today.

As Da Da turned around, the webcam in her brooch also captured the contents of the price list.

At that moment, there passed continuous sound of inhaling and surprised shout.

"Holy shit! What's that? Dongpo Pig Knuckle of 2080 RMB? Elaborate Roast Goose of 5888 RMB?" The man who had a gentle voice was so surprised that even his voice was distorted now.

"A plain dish of Phoenix Tail Prawns is surprisingly sold for 1288 RMB? Unbelievable!" It was a mature and sober female voice.

"Didn't anyone notice that Mantou? It's an unbelievably 64 RMB each." Another audience muttered about the Thousand Layer Mantou ceaselessly.

"Shh. Let's order the cheapest one." Da Da muttered softly.

"Just order that Sesame Seed Cake. Even a damn sesame seed cake can be sold at 58 RMB." This time, the woman with a mature and sober voice also couldn't help saying rudely.

"Okay." Da Da agreed with a low voice and then turned around to sit down.

"Hello. What do you want to eat today?" Zhou Jia went up and asked politely.

"A Sesame Seed Cake." Da Da said with an indifferent manner.

"Sorry. These snacks are never served for lunch and dinner."

Zhou Jia said with a smile.

"Why?" Da Da frowned and asked.

"It's all written on the menu. Other dishes in our restaurant are also not bad." Zhou Jia explained carefully.

"Then get the 100 Styles of Rice Cuisine for me. What's this?" Da Da still chose the cheapest one.

After all, she was reluctant to spend much in Yuan Zhou's restaurant.

"It's the food cooked with the rice as the ingredient." Zhou Jia introduced to him some kinds of 100 Styles of Rice Cuisines carefully.

"Then I order the Soy Sauce Rice, the kind different from fried rice." Da Da ordered a comparatively difficult dish.

"All right. It's a total of 98 RMB. Payment is made first in our restaurant." Zhou Jia nodded her head and said that.

"Here you are. One hundred." Da Da took out a brand-new 100-RMB note and handed it to her.

"Here is the change of 2 RMB." Zhou Jia fished out two coins and handed them back to Da Da.

That's right. As he was promoted to a higher grade, Yuan Zhou seldom took part in the work of giving small change now. He usually gave Zhou Jia some change to do the work for him.

The system only calculated the total cash in the cash box in the evening now, so both Zhou Jia and Shen Min helped Yuan Zhou to return the change. However, customers used bank transfer more often than paying cash over here.

"Ok." Da Da nodded.

After receiving the money, Zhou Jia reported the dish to Yuan Zhou.



"A serving of Soy Sauce Rice." Zhou Jia reported the dish.

Yuan Zhou nodded and then started to prepare.

"It's the first time that someone ordered this dish." Yuan Zhou muttered inwardly and then began to prepare.

Soy Sauce Rice and Soy Sauce Fried Rice were indeed two different things.

For Soy Sauce Fried Rice, the chefs normally needed to blend the flavorings and cold, cooked, rice together first before they stir-fried the dish. Yuan Zhou had also cooked the dish that way. However, the Soy Sauce Rice was quite different from that.

It didn't require stir-frying. The chef only needed to cook the rice and pour the soy sauce inside. Then, it was good.

It seemed to be easy, but the chefs needed to have a good command of the cooking temperature and moisture content. The plain cooked rice couldn't be too rigid in case it was hard to chew while there would be no fragrance if it was too soft.

"System, I think Kesha Tribute Rice is the best ingredient to cook this Soy Sauce Rice. Do you think so?" Considering the current rice wasn't suitable to cook Soy Sauce Rice, Yuan Zhou asked directly.

The system displayed, "Kesha Tribute Rice has been prepared for you. Please take it and use it as you please."

"I love such moments." Yuan Zhou revealed a faint smile under the face mask.

He turned around and opened a cabinet lightly which was marked with "Kesha Rice" on the door along with the sound of "Peng". After that, he took a palm-sized porcelain bowl and filled half of the bowl with the rice.

"The rice grains of the Kesha Tribute Rice is said to be big and besides, the color is white with a hint of green like the jade." Yuan Zhou carefully observed the rice grains at hand.

After that, he found that it was truly the Kesha Tribute Rice. Afterwards, he nodded his head with satisfaction and prepared to wash it.

Unlike Zhuozhou Tribute Rice that didn't require washing, the Kesha Tribute Rice needed a slight wash for a while.

The system displayed, "Kesha Tribute Rice came from the period of the Five Dynasties and Ten Reigns. Kesha is originally the name of a town of Yongshun County under the Tujia Nationality Autonomous Municipality of Hu'nan Province. There's a part of the land in Guirong Grounds of Gaojian Village in Guirongping Kesha Town which produces a kind of extraordinarily fragrant rice. It's also regarded as the Treasure among Grains; besides that, it was dedicated to the emperor every year in ancient times. Therefore, it was called Kesha Tribute Rice from then on."

"The land with that level ground in Gaojian Village is only 1500 square meters large, but the rice produced there has soft and sticky texture, a smooth and shiny luster, mellow taste, delicate fragrance and intoxicating flavor."

"System, you can't always show off your broad knowledge when others aren't ready." Yuan Zhou was pouring the rice and stirring the water inside. Only after that did he ridicule the system helplessly.

He was right. Yuan Zhou was cooking the dish earnestly when the system unexpectedly introduced the lengthy knowledge of Kesha Tribute Rice to him.

"You are obviously screwing things up." Yuan Zhou said again.

However, the system immediately vanished after it finished the introduction.

Then, Yuan Zhou became helpless. He had only to add something.

"Actually, I know a lot about the Kesha Tribute Rice. But thank

you for your kind introduction all the same." After saying that and seeing the system have no reaction, Yuan Zhou felt relieved.

During the gap of waiting for the rice, Yuan Zhou started to prepare other ingredient required by the Soy Sauce Rice, the soy sauce.

# Chapter 449: The Best One and The Common One

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"Here's your Soy Sauce Rice. Please stir them evenly before eating. Take your time, please." Zhou Jia carried a small bowl to Da Da, set it down on the table and then said to her.

"Okay. Thank you." Da Da first thanked her habitually and then took a look at the rice.

It was a small bowl like what people normally used to eat at home during normal times. Nonetheless, girls could eat their fill with half a bowl of rice along with some dishes.

The one in front of her appeared more exquisite. It had a white porcelain body and a pattern of long green wheat leaves on the outside surface. It was filled approximately 80% with rice.

She hadn't got time to have a careful look at the bowl before she stopped Zhou Jia.

"Isn't there a side dish for this Soy Sauce Rice?" Da Da asked with puzzlement.

"No, there isn't." Zhou Jia turned around and nodded her head.

"At least, you should serve a small plate of dried turnip for me." Da Da said in surprise.

"I'm sorry. Our pickled radish isn't sold separately." Zhou Jia said courteously.

"Okay, fine." Da Da became slightly speechless.

"It really is a bandit's store. With this Soy Sauce Rice worth of 98 RMB, it doesn't even serve some dried turnip." Da Da turned around and ridiculed in the heart.

"Da Da, did something wrong happen to your?" At that moment, the sound passing from the bluetooth earphone aroused Da Da's

attention.

"Really?" Da Da knitted his brows and then stroked the brooch without a trace to adjust its position.

"Don't move, Da Da. It seems to be working well. Your fingers are still as thick and strong as before." At that moment, another teasing voice sounded in the earphone.

Instantly, her earphone was filled with the voice of her audiences praising the dishes.

"If not that I know it was Da Da's video-streaming room, I would have thought it was somebody's dish presentation." It was an objective and impartial comment.

"Indeed. I can even tell that the dish is good through the screen." It must be a hungry person.

It wasn't really exaggerated to say that the audience could see the Soy Sauce Rice through the screen, as this dish really made people unable to move their sight away.

The rice was filled in the bowl to 80% full with a bright brownish-red soy sauce poured over the surface.

The plain cooked rice was totally different from other rice. The well-cooked rice would give off some slight steam. A hint of green would appear among the white, which made it looked like a white jade wrapped in emerald.

Apart from the brownish-red soy sauce that seeped into the rice, there was also the intrinsic gloss of the rice. On the whole, the Soy Sauce Rice looked appetizing.

"It indeed looks perfect." Da Da swallowed the saliva and then said that.

Just when she was about to eat, she remembered Yuan Zhou's instruction to stir them evenly before eating. Then, she took the spoon and began to stir up the rice.

"Hua Hua"

After that, the rice changed. The white spoon covered with the brownish red soy sauce moved among the gray-jade-like rice grains and the heat of the rice instantly stimulated the fragrance of both the rice and the soy sauce.

Having stirred up the rice for a little while, Da Da found it hard to bear. While looking at the delicacy and smelling the fragrance, she naturally couldn't bear it and thus picked up the spoon and stuffed it into her mouth.

"Hmmm." Da Da couldn't help gasping in admiration.

As soon as the Soy Sauce Rice entered her mouth, the fragrance filled her mouth.

The Kesha Tribute Rice was originally quite fragrant and it became more intoxicating after being steamed. Besides, it also carried the soy sauce-like aroma and with a slight sweetness.

The sweetness not only came from the rice grains, but also from the soy sauce.

The well-separated rice grains tasted soft and sticky. And the taste was very much like that of the outermost layer of the freshly-cooked plain cooked rice that she had eaten secretly during her childhood. It carried the intrinsic sweetness of the rice and didn't let people feel that the taste is dull because of the mixed soy sauce.

The slightly salty taste contained therein stimulated the sweetness of the rice and fragrance of the soy sauce more.

"Yum. It's so delicious." While gasping in admiration, Da Da stuffed the rice into her mouth ceaselessly.

Nonetheless, the audiences at the other of the live streaming started to speak one after another.

"Da Da, come back! You are doing the anti-fraud live streaming rather than a delicacy live streaming. How could you indulge

yourself in eating and unable to pull yourself out from enjoyment?" After saying that, the woman with the mature voice couldn't help drooling.

There was a saying that when one watched others eating, they would feel that the food was more fragrant. Now, the audiences watching Da Da's live streaming all realized the words deeply.

"I think I'm watching a fake anti-fraud live streaming. It's obviously a stream for showing delicacies. I'm so hungry." The man with a gentle voice also couldn't help saying that.

"Yeah, exactly. Please stop eating, Da Da. Get back to proper business." It was the wish of an audience who was severely drooling.

"Life is so hard! I'm just here to watch an anti-fraud video streaming. Da Da, you surprisingly show us an appetizing delicacy to tempt us. Really tired." The audiences watched the Soy Sauce Rice in the bowl become less and less and thus had the impulse to beat her.

After all, her brooch webcam directly faced the Soy Sauce Rice in the front of her while she was eating. It was strange that they didn't feel hungry when they saw the rice being stuffed into Da Da's mouth ceaselessly and heard her gasp in admiration while chewing.

Well, alright. Even the heat from the rice made the audiences feel that they had smelled the fragrance at the other end of the screen.

"Cough cough. I'm finished. Let's start now." Da Da, who indulged herself in the enjoyment of the delicacy, didn't realize that the live streaming had provoked so much hatred until she finished the meal.

"Sigh. I'm feeling heartache for the Soy Sauce Rice. It looks really tasty." The woman with the gentle voice sighed with emotion at last.

"Let's get to proper business. That matters more." Da Da said that to cover her embarrassment up.

After all, she felt a little embarrassed now for what she had done just now.

"Then you hurry up." Not until then did the audiences became more energetic.

After all, they decided to watch the live streaming due to the very high prices of the dishes.

"Okay." Da Da nodded her head slightly. Then, she stood up and approached Yuan Zhou.

"Hello, boss." Da Da went up to Yuan Zhou and began to greet him immediately.

"Hello, too." Yuan Zhou returned a salute with a nod and then prepared to cook other dishes.

"Don't you feel the price is much too high?" Da Da considered for an instant and then asked loudly when Yuan Zhou hadn't totally turned back.

As soon as she said that, not only Yuan Zhou stopped turning back, but also the customers who were still in the line and had finished the meal all looked at Da Da.

Of course, those who indulged themselves in the delicacies and couldn't get themselves out of the immersion just knitted their brows and took no notice of her even if they heard that. Compared with that, it was more important to eat the delicacies. For example, Lee Yanyi. He just continued eating his dishes.

"No." Yuan Zhou turned around and answered earnestly.

"I just ate the Soy Sauce Rice. To be honest, other restaurants only charge 8 RMB or even less, 3 RMB for that while you charge 98 RMB. Don't you think it's much too expensive?" Da Da said persistently while pointing at the empty bowl in Zhou Jia's hand.



"Because mine is delicious." Yuan Zhou stood up straight and said confidently.

Once he said that, Da Da instantly became silent. That was a fact. The Soy Sauce Rice cooked by others and those cooked by Yuan Zhou were not at the same level as Yuan Zhou's was incomparable.

"Yes, it's true. Just because they are so delicious, why couldn't you make them cheaper to make everyone afford it?" In Da Da's opinion, the current prices had greatly surpassed that of ordinary dishes.

"Different ingredients and different craftsmanship." Yuan Zhou answered her in a few words and then prepared to say no more.

Lunch time was limited and Yuan Zhou didn't want to waste a single minute. Therefore, he prepared to cook more dishes for others.

"Although I don't know what rice it is, I can tell it's indeed quite delicious. With your excellent craftsmanship, however, why couldn't you use the ordinary ingredients and cook some delicacies at lower prices for more people?" Da Da asked again.

Yuan Zhou didn't answer her anymore this time as he really didn't like explaining much. Nonetheless, Wu Hai uttered at the side...

# Chapter 450: An Artist That Pursues Perfection

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Wu Hai chuckled and uttered, "Ha Ha. What do you do, little girl?"

Da Da just looked at Wu Hai with puzzlement, but didn't answer him.

"Don't get me wrong. I'm just asking and it's nothing personal. It's just because I can help Boss Yuan to answer your question." Wu Hai was quite mild when he talked with a young pretty girl.

Not everyone was as hopeless as Yuan Zhou.

"I'm a we-media worker." Da Da rolled her beautiful eyes and then brought out a nice name for her work.

"So you aren't an artist." With a nod, Wu Hai revealed an "obviously" expression.

"What does it have anything to do with the art?" Da Da became even more confused.

"Besides that, you are here for the first time, aren't you?" Instead of answering Da Da's question, Wu Hai continued asking that.

"Yes." Da Da nodded her head.

"I'm an oil painting artist. I'm quite skilled in drawing." Wu Hai stroked his small mustaches and said confidently.

"Excuse me. What do that have anything to do with Boss Yuan?" Da Da asked with a speechless tone while looking at Boss Yuan who was cooking earnestly and then at Wu Hai who was about to show off in front of her.

"Young people indeed have no patience nowadays. I haven't finished." Wu Hai glared at Da Da.

"You are not old, either." Da Da answered him frankly and straightforwardly.

"This little girl really has sharp eyes, but please hear me out first." Upon hearing that, Wu Hai became quite delighted, but he still didn't forget his proper business.

"Okay. Please go on." Listening to the heated discussions in her live streaming room, Da Da decided to hear what this small-mustache man would say.

"Apart from the artist himself, the oil paint, drawing paper and painting brush are the most important things." Wu Hai introduced the basic knowledge of an oil-painting artist briefly.

"A good brush is too rare. The painting brush from Yuanbaoge Store is suitable for the mountains-and-waters painting. Fortunately, the penholder from Xiedetang Store is really nice but the best penpoint comes from Hongdetang Store. Little girl, which one do you think I should use?" Wu Hai looked at Da Da and asked.

"It's easy. Why don't you put the penpoint from Hongdetang onto the penholder from Xiedetang?" Without hesitation, Da Da told him.

"You are right. Even you yourself know everyone should pursue the best. Why couldn't Boss Yuan?" Wu Hai shrugged and said lazily.

"But..." Da Da was reluctant to admit defeat and she still wanted to say something.

"There's no 'but'. For a painter who pursues the ultimate art, he has excessively high requirements even on the drawing paper, let alone the brush. Similarly, it doesn't make sense for a great chef that takes cooking as his own art to use worse ingredients when there are better ones." Only then did Wu hai begin to talk seriously.

Da Da stared blankly and said nothing.

"The pursuit of perfection is the most fundamental professional ethics for an artist. So is it to Boss Yuan." Wu Hai continued

saying.

"Sorry." Da Da stood at the side and paused a little while. Then, she said to Yuan Zhou suddenly.

"Take care. See you next time." Yuan Zhou happened to be carrying someone's meal across him and said in a bland tone.

"Okay. Sorry for bothering you." Da Da revealed a smile.

That's right. She finally understood that. This chef, one that constantly perfected his skills and was so earnest while cooking, would naturally pursue a better taste and there was no reason for him to use the worse ingredients to cheat himself.

Now that he could make it the best, he would never act perfunctorily.

This was what Da Da understood about Yuan Zhou.

Having walked out of the restaurant, Da Da suddenly said to the earphone, "It seems that I have failed in the anti-fraud movement this time."

She said that with a very natural tone but had no regret. Instead, she was a little happy.

Just like Da Da herself. Every time she did a live stream, she wanted to achieve the best effects, therefore she bought the Olympus lens that could take the clearest picture. However, what she really aimed for was the aristocrat among the lenses, the Carl Zeiss lens from Germany.

It was just because both the effects and presentation of the lens were the best. Da Da had never thought of doing a live stream with her phone directly.

So, Da Da was aware of Yuan Zhou's persistence now and respected him.

Although Da Da left, customers in the restaurant nevertheless started a heated discussion.

"Hey, Wu Hai. When did you become so easily satisfied? A mere painting brush from Xiedetang can meet your demands?" Ling Hong looked at Wu Hai ironically and asked him.

"I have always been that good." Wu Hai stroked his small mustaches and said complacently.

"Ho Ho. Who's the person that threw the painting brush worth 18000 RMB each angrily last time?" Ling Hong said with a tone that made others felt sick.

"Not me." Wu Hai said earnestly and primly.

"Forget the painting brush. Don't you think that girl is quite interesting?" Curiosity filled Su Mu's beautiful peach blossom eyes.

"Yes. She kept asking Boss Yuan." A customer chimed in with him.

"In my opinion, there might be some tricks." Another customer also said with a ridiculing smile.

"From the perspective of a female, she might feel that Boss Yuan's dishes are so delicious that she wants to... You know!" Man Man also guessed curiously.

"You are all thinking too much." Yuan Zhou knitted his brows and said earnestly.

After all, with his sharp ears, he had heard Da Da's dialogue with her audiences all along.

She was obviously a streamer and that was the reason why she was so curious.

"Boss Yuan, we are all worrying about your marriage. What do you think of this matter?" Looking at Yuan Zhou that was slightly idle now, Su Mu asked him.

"I have never thought of that." Yuan Zhou really wanted to shrug his shoulders. For the sake of his image, however, he managed to refrain himself from doing that.

Just like how he refrained from beating Wu Hai to death after that.

"Actually, I have a good idea." Wu Hai said suddenly as if he had been hit by an inspiration.

"What's that?" Man Man asked cooperatively.

"Man Man, your money fell." Wu Hai didn't answer her, but suddenly pointed at the ground behind her and said.

"Huh? Really?" Man Man looked back at the ground.

There was indeed a 10 RMB note on the smooth and clean ground. Without any hesitation, Man Man picked it up.

"Yes, it's yours." While Man Man was picking that up, Wu Hai said affirmatively.

"Thank you." Man Man thanked him habitually.

"See? Boss Yuan, you should pick up girls like me." Seeing Man Man pick up the money, Wu Hai said to Yuan Zhou excitedly.

However, Ling Hong and Su Mu who had just seen the scene just revealed a manner of "I don't know you."

"Boss Yuan, if you tell a girl that her money fell on the ground, she will pick it up habitually. If you like any girl, you can directly go up and tell her that her boyfriend also fell on the ground. That way, you can get her as your girlfriend very easily." Wu Hai was so excited when he said that.

He talked as if it were such a brilliant idea. Of course, judging from the complacent manner on his face, he also thought that way.

That's right. The 10 RMB note was thrown on the ground by Wu Hai when Man Man didn't notice him. Then he lied to her to make her pick it up just to tell Yuan Zhou about this matter. He really did his best.

"What kind of confidence is it that allows you to teach Boss Yuan how to chase after girls when you yourself have been single for

more than 30 years?" Ling Hong couldn't help laughing and saying that.

"Cough cough. I'm going to prepare the dishes." With Yuan Zhou's taut face, no one could see any clue from his face.

Wu Hai was then mocked by Ling Hong and Su Mu in turn. Of course, Man Man who was just cheated still felt very happy. While taking the 10 RMB note, she told Wu Hai that this idea wasn't scientific at all.

# Chapter 451: The Grievances That Make One's Heart Ache

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Although Yuan Zhou was cooking the dishes earnestly at the side and no longer spoke, the atmosphere in the restaurant was still harmonious and cheerful.

Only after lunchtime ended did Yuan Zhou have time to think carefully. Wu Hai's idea sounded a little amusing at the beginning but it seemed to make some sense when Yuan Zhou thought it over.

"Perhaps, I should have asked Man Man if her boyfriend cooks nice dishes." Yuan Zhou muttered to himself primly with a frown on his face.

Not long after, the system appeared and interrupted Yuan Zhou's random thoughts.

The system displayed, "Congratulations, host. You have obtained the reward Heart of The Chef."

"What the damn is this? System, are you out of your mind?" Yuan Zhou asked the system with a puzzled expression.

The system displayed, "The reward is available to be received."

"One must have evil intentions if one shows excessive attention to others. System, what conspiracy are you planning?" Yuan Zhou asked in an alert manner.

After all, every reward from the system would inevitably be followed by a trap.

From the system, Yuan Zhou had a good understanding of the sentence "There is no pie in the sky." Even if there was one, it would definitely hit his head.

The system displayed, "The reward is available to be received and it comes from the Roast Goose that you completed quickly."



"Are you serious? Last time, you rewarded me with the Roast Goose because you said I had finished the mission well. However, the subsequent mission became more difficult by several times." Yuan Zhou rolled his eyes rudely and said with a tone of disbelief.

Anyway, the system was always like that. When Yuan Zhou was rewarded with the Soup Dumplings, his business time was reduced; when he got a red packet from the system once in a blue moon, he had to pay a large amount of taxes; when he was rewarded a title for levelling up, he was also rewarded with a book list as thick as a dictionary that required him to read all of the books.

After he finally finished the Roast Goose mission, the system increased the difficulty of the following mission. Such typical examples were too numerous to enumerate.

However, Yuan Zhou wrongfully accused the system this time. The reward this time had something to do with Chef Zhan.

The system didn't require a specific time limit on completion of the dish of Roast Goose, but it had an invisible requirement, that was, to complete the mission as soon as possible.

A chef always had responsibilities to study the dish recipe they obtained. Because of Chef Zhan, Yuan Zhou had managed to master the cooking method of this dish with his utmost perseverance.

Although he had also sacrificed his hands for that.

As for Chef Zhan, he was still the boss in the kitchen of Goose Jin Xuan restaurant.

"Chef Zhan, your Roasted Goose is getting more and more delicious. It's such a great craftsmanship." General Manager Qin squinted his eyes and enjoyed the delicacy of the Roast Goose.

"Well, there's still some distance from being the best." Chef Zhan just answered blandly without expression.

"Chef Zhan, you are too demanding on yourself. Your craftsmanship has originally been excellent and now it even improved. You are really a genius in roasting the goose." General Manager Qin spoke highly of Chef Zhan's craftsmanship smilingly.

"I really don't deserve this compliment." When Chef Zhan said that, he appeared fairly cold and didn't seem to happy.

"You are too modest. The goose tasted a little greasy formerly, but it changed now. Even if I keep eating, I don't feel greasy at all. Look, I have eaten quite a few pieces." General Manager Qin didn't know why Chef Zhan was angry, but he still praised him earnestly.

"Humph. Take your time. I'm going to the kitchen." As soon as he said that, Chef Zhan left immediately without a hint of smile on his bony face.

"Ok. Go on with your work. There's another Roast Goose Banquet tomorrow. Don't forget it." General Manager Qin wasn't really angry. He took a bite of the goose and instructed him earnestly.

"Got it. I won't forget it." Chef Zhan didn't turn around, but just answered straightforwardly.

"It's good for a chef to be demanding. If you are demanding, I can charge the customers more." Once Chef Zhan got out of the door, General Manager Qin murmured vaguely.

Having returned to the kitchen, Chef Zhan scolded his three disciples as usual and then returned to his own small kitchen to study the roast goose.

"Hoo... He's finally gone." The fatter one among the three let out a sigh of relief.

"What are you relieved for? I was scolded everytime I called him. Did you see me ever saying anything?" With a medium height and build, the man who often called Chef Zhan rolled his eyes and said discontentedly.

"What exactly do you think is wrong with Chef Zhan? He got so

mad at first that he almost smashed the old stove used to roast the goose. We all know how much he cherishes that old stove. He even cleans it by himself." The slimmest person among the three said thoughtfully.

"Yeah, you are right. Now he shuts himself in the small kitchen to cook the roast goose every day and says things like 'I have been roasting goose for all my life and I won't lose.'." The fatter one also looked at the person with medium height and build curiously.

"Why are you looking at me? I don't know, either. In my opinion, however, that Boss Yuan was probably the blow to him." The man in the middle said with uncertainty softly.

"That's actually quite likely. However, the Roast Goose cooked by Chef Zhan is indeed getting better and better." The fatter one sighed with emotion.

"I just don't know whether it's good or not that he's so crazy. His temper just gets worse." The slimmest guy shrugged, indicating that he was quite helpless.

Yuan Zhou naturally had no idea of the matter over here, he was still conflicted about the reward from the system.

That's right. Yuan Zhou hadn't even tap it open to check it.

"What shall I do if I couldn't stop myself from receiving the reward and got cheated again?" This was what Yuan Zhou was thinking.

However, he felt even worse if he did not tap it. The glittering reward was glistening over there.

"But if I don't tap it open, I will feel so bad. Forget it! Let me just tap it open and check it." Yuan Zhou looked at the reward appearing in his mind and couldn't help saying.

"Ta Ta Ta", Yuan Zhou walked around in the small restaurant and suddenly saw that lively prawn in the sergestes scenery wall.

"Is it still alive?" Yuan Zhou looked at that single prawn that appeared rather conspicuous among the beautiful petal-like sergestes.

"Now that you are still alive, I can check the reward." Yuan Zhou said something irrelevant with quite a natural tone.

Naturally, he intended to check the reward.

[Heart of The Chef] Complete the Elaborate Roast Goose In Advance

(Mission tips: This tip does not contain a tip. It's just a matter of luck. Young man, you have really good luck!) [Reward of Heart of The Chef] A Preparation Method for Spicy Hotpot Seasoning

(Reward tips: If you don't eat a fulfilling hotpot in such a frosty weather, is there any difference between you and a salted fish?) "Everytime I see such this kind of tips, I really feel that they are dazzling. System, it's obviously not your style." Yuan Zhou supported his forehead and said helplessly.

"Frankly speaking, however, the Spicy Hotpot is a very good reward." Yuan Zhou raised his eyes and took a look at the raindrops in the air.

That's right. Just when Yuan Zhou was conflicted, it suddenly rained. The rain wasn't really heavy and was just the continuous patter of raindrops along with the cold wind breezing, which made him feel slightly cold.

However, Yuan Zhou didn't worry about his customers being drenched by the rain, because all the stores along the side street had verandas outside, namely the place where Yuan Zhou put his shelf. His customers could stand there to evade the rain.

Having watched the rain outside the door, Yuan Zhou suddenly realized there seemed to be something with the reward.

"System, is there only the preparation method of the seasoning for the rewarded Spicy Hotpot?" Yuan Zhou asked curiously.

The system displayed, "Yes."

"What about the side ingredients?" Yuan Zhou thought that there were indeed some ingredients in his restaurant to use as the side ingredients of the spicy hotpot, but they weren't a lot.

The system displayed, "There are no side ingredients for now."

"Then I have to use our own ingredients in the restaurant." Yuan Zhou shrugged and said helplessly.

The system displayed, "The ingredients in the restaurant aren't suitable for hotpot."

"What do you mean?" Yuan Zhou asked with an alert tone.

The system displayed, "Host, who tells you there must be side ingredients for the hotpot?"

"You sure make a damn lot of sense. I don't even know what to say." Yuan Zhou paused a while and then said that.

However, what kind of hotpot it is if there aren't any side ingredients?"

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## Chapter 452: Wu Hai's Bright Idea (First)

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"I feel that each of your rewards are beyond all expectations." When Yuan Zhou said that, he obviously gnashed his teeth.

However, the system didn't respond to him at all.

"Receive the reward." Yuan Zhou sighed. He still received the reward at last.

Yuan Zhou was quite clear-headed. Something was better than nothing.

It was still raining lightly outside the restaurant.

"Hoo... The seasoning really looks nice. Let me cook for myself this evening for a midnight snack." After Yuan Zhou received the preparation method for the Spicy Hotpot, he stroked his own chin and said with great interest.

"Ta Ta Ta", Yuan Zhou stepped out of the restaurant.

After a sound of "Hoo...", a blast of wind blew towards him.

"It's so cold." Yuan Zhou was wearing some normal clothing inside the Han Clothing. He didn't wear the thermal underwear, because it was inconvenient for him to move about.

Besides, it was very warm in the restaurant, just like the weather in Spring.

Even some of the flowers on the shelf had flower buds.

"Little Yuan, don't come out today to sculpt anymore. It's so cold outside." Seeing Yuan Zhou intending to go out, Boss Tong immediately peeked out and said to him.

"Um, don't worry. Please take care of yourself." Yuan Zhou nodded his head and then also said with a caring tone.

"I'm not like you young people, so I will close my store very soon." Boss Tong said with a smile.

"Okay. Take an early rest." Yuan Zhou showed a faint smile.

"I know." Boss Tong nodded her head and then turned around back into her store.

Then the side street became cold and cheerless.

Originally, the stores along this street had been either closed or were for rent. However, the presence of Yuan Zhou's restaurant directly made this street into a bustling and lively place. Although there was no one in the street now, every restaurant was open and waiting for the customers to drop by.

There were many customers at meal time around here and therefore, those who weren't running restaurants changed their meal time.

They did that just because they wanted to have more business.

After all, the queuing machine had been put into use and thus, the customers in the latter part could naturally go somewhere else to wander.

"Little Boss Yuan, what are you standing here for?" Holding a big black umbrella, Boss Wang passed by Yuan Zhou's restaurant with his aching legs and asked conveniently.

"I'm checking the weather," said Yuan Zhou primly.

"The weather is bad, but it won't affect your business. Don't worry about that." Boss Wang burst into laughter and said earnestly.

"Where are you going?" Yuan Zhou didn't answer him, but inquired back.

"I'm going to buy some Mantou. I'm going to cook the Fried Pork Slices with Salted Pepper today to eat together with the Mantou."

Although Boss Wang spoke the most authentic Chengdu dialect, he liked eating Mantou. Yuan Zhou knew that and thus nodded his head.

"Okay. Take care." Yuan Zhou said courteously.

"Sure." Boss Wang nodded and then walked forward.

"Pa Da Pa Da". Boss Wang took a few steps forward and then stopped. After that, he turned around and asked with an affirmative and cordial smile on his fatty face, "Boss Yuan, are those water pipes in your restaurant fine? If there are any problems, do come to me."

"Uncle Wang, your craftsmanship is well known to me. It's still working well now." Yuan Zhou said with certainty immediately.

"Perfect." Having been praised by Boss Yuan, Boss Wang held up the umbrella and walked away happily.

Once he walked farther for some distance, the street fell silent again and only the sound of raindrops could be heard. Suddenly, Yuan Zhou's amusing temperament was activated. He said to himself, "Isn't it necessary for me to recite poems on this rainy day?"

"Light rain moistened the heavenly street... Wait, Wu Hai is on the second floor of that building. Forget it." Just when Yuan Zhou recited one sentence while wagging his head, he immediately remembered that Wu Hai was living across the street and thus stopped reciting.

Thinking of his image of a prince charming, Yuan Zhou, who occasionally amused himself for fun, managed to refrain himself from reciting the poems. He straightforwardly returned to his own restaurant and started to prepare the seasoning of the Spicy Hotpot, preparing to provide this new dish in the evening.

The evening soon arrived. Just as usual, Zhou Jia entered the restaurant first.

"Hiss... So cold." Zhou Jia exhaled to her hands and muttered in a soft voice.

"There are hot towels beside the door. You can use one and leave



the remaining ones to the customers." Yuan Zhou said without raising his head.

"Okay. Thank you, Boss." On hearing that, Zhou Jia suddenly smiled and said loudly.

"Go ahead." Yuan Zhou nodded his head.

Zhou Jia took two steps forward and then found a big rattan basket that was filled with steaming white towels at the place where the cooked dishes were placed during normal times. Under the basket, there was a hot pad giving off white heat. It appeared to be very warm.

"My boss is so nice." Zhou Jia picked up a towel of moderate temperature and wiped her hands carefully, feeling quite happy.

The towels were originally bought by Yuan Zhou and were prepared for the customers to wipe the water off on rainy days. Of course, the boxer who came to eat the Egg Fried Rice after the matches also used the clean and soft towel to clean himself.

While wiping her hands, Zhou Jia habitually looked toward the menu. Ever since the embarrassment where she didn't realize a new dish was served last time, this habit had been following both Zhou Jia and Shen Min.

"Boss, have you started serving the hotpot?" Zhou Jia asked in surprise.

"Um." Yuan Zhou nodded.

"Terrific. But what does the line of characters up there mean?" Zhou Jia was very happy at first and then became puzzled when she saw that line of small characters.

"It is what it literally means." Yuan Zhou said lightly.

"Okay, alright." Zhou Jia didn't fully understand that, but she didn't ask anymore.

Yuan Zhou didn't want to explain to her, either. After all, even he

himself was quite displeased at the capricious system.

After Zhou Jia saw the prices clearly, she went up to greet the customers when she found that business time had commenced. Then, she came back into the restaurant and prepared to give out the towels to every customer.

"This is the hot towel provided by Boss Yuan. You can either wipe your hands or your face." Taking the heavy basket, she said to every customer that entered Yuan Zhou's restaurant with a smile.

"Aha, he's really a kindhearted little compass who just appears cool." Wu Hai picked up the towel and teased him while wiping his hands.

"What's that?" Yuan Zhou asked with puzzlement.

"Of course, it's your nickname." Wu Hai said deservedly.

"You named it?" Yuan Zhou asked quite solemnly.

"Of course not." Wu Hai said without any psychological burden.

The instinct of a wild beast told him there wouldn't be good consequences if he admitted that. So Wu Hai refused to admit that without any hesitation.

"Okay." Yuan Zhou then put the Miracle Kitchen Knife down without a trace secretly.

"A new dish of hotpot is available today." Zhou Jia said to Wu Hai suddenly after she had given out the towels to the customers.

The price wasn't the highest, but probably only Wu Hai and a few other customers could afford it and would like to taste it.

"Holy sh\*t. Is it spicy? Get one for me, please. I have long been expecting to eat the hotpot prepared by Boss Yuan." Wu Hai immediately said to Zhou Jia.

He even had no interest in teasing Yuan Zhou anymore. It was too common for Wu Hai who loved spiciness so much.

"Mr. Wu, you can check the menu first." Zhou Jia said kindheartedly.

"Never mind. I have been quite used to the prices of Boss Yuan dishes." Wu Hai said indifferently.

"I mean you'll know something upon looking at the menu." Zhou Jia still insisted.

"Is there anything odd?" Wu Hai turned his head with puzzlement.

Instantly, he was stupefied...

# Chapter 453: Wu Hai's Bright Idea (Second)

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"Isn't your new dish the hotpot?" Wu Hai pointed at the menu and asked speechlessly.

"Yes. That's why I wanted you to check first." Zhou Jia smiled innocently.

She must have studied from Yuan Zhou on that point.

"Boss Yuan!" Wu Hai shouted to Yuan Zhou energetically.

"Um, I can hear you." Yuan Zhou nodded his head extraordinarily calmly.

If not it wasn't a proper occasion, Yuan Zhou even wanted to imitate the character in movies, picking the ears before answering him. He felt that would be quite cool.

"Aren't you providing the Spicy Hotpot? Why is it marked below as ONLY SEASONING AVAILABLE WITHOUT SIDE INGREDIENTS. What does that mean?" Wu Hai pointed at the menu and asked quite discontentedly.

"It's what it literally means?" Yuan Zhou answered him earnestly.

"There aren't side ingredients for the Spicy Hotpot. Boss Yuan, are you kidding me?" Wu Hai was quite angry.

After all, he loved spicy dishes so much and of course the Spicy Hotpot was his favorite. But what could he eat if there weren't side ingredients in the hotpot? Yuan Zhou must be kidding.

"Who told you there must be side ingredients in the hotpot?" Yuan Zhou asked him back in a natural and calm tone.

"Well..." Instantly, Wu Hai was speechless by the words that Yuan Zhou had learned from the system.

"Go take orders." Yuan Zhou immediately felt a pleasant feeling all over his body. Then he said to Zhou Jia beside him.

"Are you sure there are no side ingredients?" Wu Hai stressed heavily on the two characters of NO SIDE INGREDIENTS.

"Not for now." Yuan Zhou nodded.

"Okay. Get me a serving of the seasoning of the Spicy Hotpot." Stroking his small mustaches hesitantly, Wu Hai looked at Yuan Zhou and said to him indignantly.

"According to the rules, you can order whatever dish you like. As this is just the soup, however, you don't need to eat it all up. But if you are just ordering it to check or try the taste, it will be regarded as a waste." Yuan Zhou reminded him earnestly.

"I know. Don't be so wordy. I just want it." Wu Hai said indignantly.

"Um. Whoever breaks the rules would be blacklisted." When Yuan Zhou said the word 'blacklisted', he appeared quite solemn without the slightest joking manner.

"Got it." Wu Hai nodded his head.

Yuan Zhou said that with a fairly average volume, thus almost all customers in his restaurant heard him.

However, he was more likely to say that to Su Mu and Ling Hong. After all, only these two people could afford to waste the dish.

After all, the marked price of the hotpot was really not low.

Seasoning of the Spicy Hotpot: 3688 RMB each per serving (Only a serving of seasoning of the hotpot is available and there are no other dishes)

This was the marked price on the new menu. And that was why Yuan Zhou especially reminded everyone that nobody could waste it.

However, it originally wasn't regarded as the food. You couldn't let others drink up all the soup of the hotpot, but if one didn't taste it after ordering, that would be considered a waste. Therefore,

Yuan Zhou wouldn't let that happen and thus explained specially.

"What the f\*ck! How can you provide only the seasoning and not the side ingredients? Boss Yuan, how about you allow me to take the dish out?" Wu Hai asked Yuan Zhou and hoped something good could happen.

"I'm sorry. No dish is allowed to be taken out of my restaurant." Yuan Zhou grinned and then said earnestly.

"Okay, fine. Please go and prepare the soup." Wu Hai waved his hand, indicating that he wanted to stay there alone.

Only after Yuan Zhou turned around and began to prepare the dishes did the customers in the restaurant start a discussion.

"What do you think Boss Yuan means? Why is there only the seasoning?" A customer asked the other one beside him curiously.

"Exactly. This hotpot is so expensive." Another customer ordered the beef and then ridiculed about the hotpot.

"Yeah. Moreover, there aren't any side ingredients. As long as it's cooked by Boss Yuan, however, I want to taste the soup." The first customer had just chimed in with the third one recalled Yuan Zhou's craftsmanship. Then, he said reluctantly.

"We might as well go beg Wu Hai. He might agree to our request." The customer suggested craftily.

"No, never. It is already good that he doesn't come to steal ours." Obviously, this person was a regular customer and he was quite clear about Wu Hai's temperament of protecting his own dishes.

"That makes sense. But I'm still curious about why Boss Yuan doesn't provide the side ingredients. That way, we can gather together and eat a meal." The customer looked at the menu and then at Yuan Zhou and revealed a puzzled expression.

"Humph. What reason do you think it is? His OCD must be acting up and couldn't find any satisfactory side ingredients." Stroking

his small mustaches at the side, Wu Hai looked at Yuan Zhou with a gloomy gaze and said that.

"That's quite possible." Then, other customers in the restaurant all nodded with one accord.

One could imagine how well-known Yuan Zhou's OCD was to his customers.

"But, how are you going to eat it since there's only the soup of the hotpot?" A customer turned his head and asked curiously.

"I'm going to drink it." Wu Hai said indifferently.

"Ho Ho. Sounds great. Hope it's not too spicy." The customer felt that Wu Hai's stomach was really powerful.

"Wait. I've got an idea." Wu Hai suddenly shouted.

Yet, the customer beside him was startled.

"What's the matter?" The customer asked Wu Hai while looking at him.

"Hey hey. I got an idea about the eating method of the soup of the hotpot." Wu Hai was quite complacent.

"Did you think you could stop me from eating the hotpot this way? Naive." Wu Hai revealed a smile on his face and complacency in his eyes.

"What is it?" The customer beside him couldn't help asking him curiously.

"You'll know that in no time. Zhou Jia, please serve me a bowl of plain white rice." Wu Hai appeared mysterious and was reluctant to tell him. However, he said to Zhou Jia and ordered another dish.

"Okay. One moment, please." Zhou Jia nodded her head and answered.

"Is it Rice Served in Soup?" The customer suddenly reacted and asked in surprise.

"You are right. It will definitely be very delicious." Wu Hai stroked his small mustaches complacently and appeared affirmative.

"I have no comment about others. But Boss Yuan's dishes are definitely free from any concerns." The customer also nodded his head approvingly.

However, he wanted to know about the taste of the hotpot more.

He turned his head and looked at the colleague who came along with him.

"Don't ever think of that. As the price is so high, I might as well order a plate of Dongpo Pig Knuckle that I have long been drooling over. I don't want the Rice Served in Soup." His colleague refused him immediately.

"All right." The customer beside Wu Hai nodded his head helplessly.

Between the meat and the soup, he still chose the meat and left the soup aside.

Not long after, Zhou Jia carried the tray on which a hotpot and a bowl of plain white rice were served to them.

"Mr. Wu, here are your dishes." Zhou Jia said that after she carried the dishes to him.

"Okay, thanks." Wu Hai nodded his head. This time, he looked at the hotpot in front of him very carefully.

The size of the hotpot was just as big as that of the small ones in restaurants in normal times, yet with a slightly thick bottom. There was supposed to be fire from charcoal inside it. The brilliant red soup rolling up and down was so good-looking, like that of a continuous red wave.

Different from the stainless steel pot, this pot was an earthenware pot that could best preserve the heat. The



earthenware pot was dark purple and was almost black while the soup was a brilliant red.

Along with the rolling soup, the heat burst out and the fragrance was emitted.

"Hiss... It really smells spicy." The radiance passed from Wu Hai's eyes. He liked this taste very much.

The spicy taste was like a ferocious and overbearing beautiful girl. No matter whether you liked her or not, she would express her love to you straightforwardly, being quite strong and frank.

After he appreciated the hotpot...

"Boss Yuan, can you give me a colander? I don't want to eat the spices." Wu Hai shouted loudly.

"There's a spoon for you and you don't need a colander. You'll understand that after you eat it." Yuan Zhou said directly.

"There seems to be something surprising." Only then did Wu Hai reveal a smile on his face.

In front of such a delicious dish, one would inevitably feel happy just by smelling the fragrance. Plus, utmost enjoyment is a result of Yuan Zhou's severe requirements on himself for the customers, Wu Hai had numerous reasons to be happy.

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## Chapter 454: Rice Served in Soup

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"Haw-haw. My Rice Served in Soup from the Spicy Hotpot is finally going to be served." Wu Hai picked up the spoon and prepared to scoop the soup with a look of excitement.

"You want to soak the plain white rice in the soup and eat it?" The customer beside him asked unbelievably.

"You are right. Isn't it a brilliant idea?" Wu Hai said complacently.

"I have seen many people eat Rice Served in Tea Water, Gravy Soup or Vegetable-Soup. The Rice Served in Soup of the Spicy Hotpot? It is the first time that I heard about that." The customer was astonished and sighed with emotion.

"That's the thing I want and that's why I say it's my originality." Wu Hai was very happy to answer such kind of compliments.

"There are truly all kinds of people. Are you really not afraid of spiciness?" The customer seated next to Wu Hai looked at the brilliant red spicy soup and asked curiously.

"Of course. I have been looking forward to the taste so much." Wu Hai said quite proudly.

"You don't seem to fear that your anus will be injured if you eat that way?" The customer beside him tried not to say anything, but failed.

"Ho Ho. I'm such a person like the old man, Wang Zengqi." Wu Hai stroked his small mustaches and said with a proud look.

"What do you mean?"

"The old man Wang Zengqi was a famous foodie. His well-known saying was that he eats everything with feathers except the feather duster, everything with legs except for benches, every large carcass except human bodies and every small carcass except flies." The

colleague of the customer beside Wu Hai had some knowledge about that and explained consciously.

"Yes, that's it." Wu Hai nodded his head proudly.

"Wow, he really is an awesome foodie." The customer said with a speechless manner.

Wu Hai nodded his head to show his consent and then began to soak the rice with the soup of the spicy hotpot.

The brilliant red spicy soup was poured into the bowl continuously.

The plain white rice of the 100 Styles of Rice Cuisine was naturally cooked with the best tribute rice. The delicate fragrance wafted far from the translucent rice grains. The rice looked extraordinarily glossy in the small white porcelain bowl. It was the oil from the boiled rice. Contrasted by the brilliant red spicy soup, it appeared more beautiful and colorful.

With the red glossy soup poured on the jade-like white rice, they formed an extremely severe contrast in color, looking bright and appetizing.

Of course, that was what Wu Hai thought. Other customers nevertheless felt it was definitely quite spicy. After all, no one really liked to use the soup of the Spicy Hotpot to soak the rice.

After he prepared the rice, Wu Hai naturally began to eat with the spoon. He picked up the spoon and scooped the rice into his mouth.

"Hiss... Spicy." As soon as the rice entered his mouth, Wu Hai couldn't help saying.

The soup of the Spicy Hotpot dyed the rice red. Upon touching the mouth, the rice tasted very hot, just like a burning charcoal being stuffed into his mouth. Wu Hai couldn't help breathing in because of that.

However, it was only a matter in an instant. Along with Wu Hai's chewing, the spiciness was swallowed slowly and then followed the delicate fragrance of the rice. Nonetheless, the spiciness came straight into the stomach along the esophagus.

It was so spicy that Wu Hai started sweating all over his body. In a rapid sequence, the typical sweetness and delicate fragrance of the rice rushed toward him. What an awfully comfortable and refreshing experience!

"Great!" Wu Hai swallowed a mouthful of rice and then couldn't help saying loudly.

Then, he scooped another spoon of rice into his mouth. It was slightly different this time. When the spicy taste rose up, a numb kind of feeling stimulate his tongue, which made the taste buds in his tongue react slightly slower.

Just at that moment, the spiciness suddenly rushed into his mouth and the fragrance of the rice also came on stage as the leading role.

That's right. The Rice Served in the Soup of the Spicy Hotpot didn't actually rob of the taste of the rice, but contrarily make the mild rice become the leading role.

As if all the thrilling spiciness was to set off the delicate fragrance and sweetness of the rice.

"It's truly a supreme rice." Wu Hai signed with emotion.

"How do you like it?" Seeing Wu Hai eat up a bowl of soup rice like the wind puffing the clouds away, the customer beside him asked curiously.

"Extremely delicious!" Wu Hai picked up his own handkerchief on the table and said earnestly.

"Is it really so delicious?" The person was really a little puzzled.

In his opinion, there was nothing but various aniseed, spices and

the hateful chilli seed as well as wild pepper in the soup of the hotpot. If he soaked the rice with the soup, wouldn't it be a waste of plain white rice cooked by Boss Yuan?

"Of course. If you help me order another bowl of plain white rice, I will tell you why." Looking at the spicy soup in the small pot, Wu Hai said naturally.

"Are you really going to take this advantage? You are toast if Boss Yuan knows that." The customer seated next to him refused immediately.

Of course he must do so. If Wu Hai can't eat it up, it was he himself who was going to suffer the consequences. Although he couldn't afford to come here for a meal frequently, it was definitely necessary to come to enjoy the delicacies occasionally.

"Trust me, I can definitely eat it up. Boss Yuan's dishes are really not much in quantity. Don't worry." Just for something to eat, Wu Hai even began to vouch for that.

After all, the spicy soup in front of him had been constantly stimulating his taste bud. He even had to speak cautiously in case he drooled.

Yet, the customers naturally thought that Wu Hai might have eaten something too spicy, because people would subconsciously salivate to alleviate the feeling after they ate something spicy.

"I'm just asking you if it's delicious. Wait..." Just when the customer wanted to refuse him, he was stopped by his colleague next to him. So he turned his head and looked at his colleague with puzzlement.

"Don't you want to taste it? Just have a try." Although his colleague said that with a euphemistic tone, he signaled toward him the soup pot in front of Wu Hai.

"Well, I can say yes. But you must share some of your soup with me." The person immediately reacted and then he said to Wu Hai

with a smile.

"Young people nowadays are really greedy." Immediately, Wu Hai moved the small pot to himself with an alert manner.

"Whatever you want." This person shrugged indifferently and meanwhile, he ate a mouthful of Egg Fried Rice blissfully.

Nevertheless, Wu Hai looked at the soup of the Spicy Hotpot and then at Yuan Zhou who was unconcerned about that. He almost said that it was all Yuan Zhou's fault.

Normally, Yuan Zhou paid no attention to such a gaze, but today, he turned his head and asked Wu Hai once in a blue moon, "So do you understand now why the colander isn't needed?"

"Yes, I do. But how did you make it?" Wu Hai asked sincerely.

"Very easy. It's the secret of a chef." When Yuan Zhou said that, he specifically turned around and took a look at Wu Hai carefully.

"Are you fu\*king kidding me?" Wu Hai asked discontentedly while pointing at Yuan Zhou.

"No." Yuan Zhou shook his head.

"Ho Ho." Wu Hai answered him cleanly and simply.

"Actually, the taste of the soup will slightly change every time." Having thought for a while, Yuan Zhou pointed at the steaming soup pot and said to him.

"It is really a stiff diversion of the subject. I give 0 points." Wu Hai looked at the soup pot and then at the customer seated next to him before he said to Yuan Zhou discontentedly.

"This is the truth." Yuan Zhou said quite earnestly with a taut face.

"Hey. What about you give me a little rice and I give you only a spoonful of soup? Accept it or deny it." Wu Hai first smelled the soup pot and then said to the customer seated next to him with a conflicted expression.

"No problem." The customer agreed with a smiling immediately.

"What a greedy person!" Wu Hai revealed a look of heartaches.

Even if the spicy soup in the small pot was sufficient for three bowls of plain white rice, Wu Hai's heart still ached severely as if his flesh had been cut.

Tricks! There were a full of tricks in Yuan Zhou's restaurant.

# Chapter 455: The Fascination of Spicy Soup Pot

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"Jia Jia, I want a serving of plain white rice of 100 Styles of Rice Cuisine." As soon as Wu Hai agreed with him, his neighboring customer ordered the dish immediately.

"Okay. It's 98 RMB in total." After a nod, Zhou Jia said then.

"The bank transfer has been made." The customer pointed at the phone and said smilingly.

"One moment, please. It'll be served very soon." Zhou Jia confirmed receipt of the payment and said with a smile.

"Okay. No problem." The customer nodded his head.

Zhou Jia smiled at him and then left to report the order.

As for Wu Hai's money, he naturally transferred it to the customer.

While looking at Wu Hai, the customer said, "I have ordered the rice. Can I get a spoon of the soup now?"

"Certainly you can. But you must use your own spoon to get it." Wu Hai said calmly.

Before that, he had secretly compared the sizes of his own spoon and the person's spoon. Obviously, his own spoon was a little bigger.

As his neighboring customer was eating the Egg Fried Rice, he also used the spoon.

"My spoon is smaller than yours. I think it's fairer to use your spoon." The neighboring customer said shrewdly.

"Really?" While saying that, Wu Hai picked up his spoon and stuffed it into his mouth to lick it without any hesitation.

"What did you say just now? I didn't hear you clearly. You know,



old people don't have sharp ears." Wu Hai stroked his mustaches and looked at his neighboring customer with an innocent gaze.

"Nothing." The customer was made speechless for quite a while. Only after that did he say.

"Okay, good. I saw some oil droplets on the spoon and thus licked it. Do you mind?" Wu Hai asked with an evil interest.

"Ho Ho. When did you see an oil droplet on the spoon provided by Boss Yuan?" The customer couldn't help rolling his eyes.

"You are right. I might have misjudged that. Please scoop the soup quickly. If it gets cold, the taste will be affected." Wu Hai said extraordinarily cleanly and generously.

"Oh, yeah! Thank you so much for your reminding." The neighboring customer simply didn't know how to cope with Wu Hai, therefore he had to gnash his teeth and say that.

"You are welcome." Wu Hai revealed a most cordial smile while stroking his small mustaches.

Then, the customer said no more. He scooped out a full spoon of the soup cleanly and poured it on the Egg Fried Rice meticulously.

That's right. He learned that from Wu Hai. If the soup could be used for the plain white rice, it could also be used for the Egg Fried Rice.

As the soup was too little, he had only to stir and mix the rice with the soup slowly.

"Now you can have a try." The colleague of this customer smiled mischievously.

"Yes, now. This guy is such a stingy person." He intentionally said loudly.

Nevertheless, Wu Hai was just indulged in the Rice Served in Soup and couldn't extricate himself. He was totally deaf to others' complaints.

"Haw-haw. Hurry up. We almost finished our meal." The colleague couldn't help bursting into laughter and then urged the customer.

"Okay." He nodded his head and then scooped up the evenly-mixed Egg Fried Rice from the plate into his mouth at a gulp.

Yuan Zhou's Egg Fried Rice was alike to the Golden Fried Rice in "Cooking Master Boy". Due to that reason, Yuan Zhou's restaurant even attracted some female animation addicts to come to eat.

After all, the cold face, too many rules and yet delicious dishes simply could be found nowhere except in fiction or animations.

So when the brilliant red soup of Spicy Hotpot was poured on the golden yellow Egg Fried Rice, the color brought out the best in each other.

The collision of two bright colors didn't destroy the beauty of either color, but instead improved each other.

"The color looks truly comfortable." The customer signed with emotion and then gulped it down.

The taste of Egg Fried Rice was needless to say. Wrapped up by the soft and tender egg liquid, the moderately hard rice provoked the supreme taste of both ingredients upon entering his mouth.

And there was one more taste now, the spiciness.

The egg was an ingredient that could match with most food ingredients. Whatever it was cooked with, like the Chinese toon sprout, pungent garlic or the Chinese chives that had special fragrance, the egg could manifest the intrinsic delicacy of these ingredients.

They could all form a fantastic taste. This was exactly the inclusiveness of the egg.

Naturally, the spiciness that he encountered now was also like that.

"Hiss... Spicy!" Alike to Wu Hai, the customer shouted as soon as it entered his mouth.

After a while, however, he closed his mouth and started to chew.

The taste was marvelous. The delicious Egg Fried Rice was wrapped up by a layer of spicy soup, which suddenly made the originally bland Egg Fried Rice have a spicy taste.

"What a wonderful taste!" The customer said while continuously making the sound of "Hiss...".

The spiciness nicely set off the intrinsic taste of the Egg Fried Rice while the numbing taste served as the final taste which stimulated his tongue from time to time and made it capture the various tastes.

The taste was just like a cloud of dazzling fireworks.

"Shua Shua". With only two bites, a spoonful of Rice Served in the soup of the Spicy Hotpot was swallowed up.

Then the customer kept silent on the chair for quite a while before he suddenly said to his colleague at the side, "Do you remember how many years we have been working together?"

"Three years. Why?" His colleague appeared an alert look.

Did this guy want to borrow his money?

"Please order another serving of plain white rice for him later. I want to eat some more of that spicy soup." The customer said cleanly.

"You really startled me. I thought it was something bigger." His colleague said lightly.

"It's so good that you can agree." The customer turned his head and looked at Wu Hai after a nod.

"Do you want more? I think the soup can soak another bowl of rice." The customer asked Wu Hai with an extraordinarily natural tone.

"Of course." Wu Hai set down the bowl contentedly and then said affirmatively.

"My colleague can help to order another bowl of rice. The condition remains the same." The customer sounded enthusiastic, as if he here a kind friend.

"No need. According to your reaction, the Egg Fried Rice also taste good with the spicy soup." Wu Hai refused him flatly and asked Zhou Jia to serve him a bowl of Egg Fried Rice.

"Is it really good that you do this in an abnormal way?" Looking at Wu Hai's soup pot, the customer asked, being reluctant to accept the fact.

"Thank you for your kindness." Wu Hai said that smilingly.

It was boisterous and noisy in the restaurant just like always. Other customers were naturally tasting the delicious dishes blissfully while watching the intriguing scene.

"There's neither BBQ nor liquor tonight." Yuan Zhou stood at the desolate door and said while looking at Broth.

That's right. It rained all day today. After the dinner time ended, the customers left one after another. As Yuan Zhou didn't intend to serve the BBQ tonight, only Yuan Zhou was left there at the door now.

Lying prone on the ground under the veranda, Broth didn't respond to Yuan Zhou's word.

"I'm going to eat the hotpot. Are you coming to join me?" Yuan Zhou looked at Broth and asked.

"Xi Li Xi Li". There was still only the patter of the rain droplets and nothing else.

Broth still didn't have any reaction as usual.

"You little thing, I feed you with food and water, but you never act cute to me. I think you have been a useless dog." Yuan Zhou

started to ridicule Broth once in a blue moon.

"I heard that dogs don't eat spicy things, but I'm not sure if it's true. Anyway, I suggest you not eat it." Yuan Zhou suddenly remembered that and gave up the idea.

"Hua La". Yuan Zhou closed the roller shutter door and returned to the kitchen and then started to prepare the hotpot for his dinner.

Tsk! A hotpot prepared for him alone. Yuan Zhou felt the restaurant was a little quiet and secluded.

# Chapter 456: Go Out To Buy Vegetables

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In the evening, Yuan Zhou naturally washed, prepared, cut and rinsed all the ingredients in hot water in his restaurant.

With all these ingredients boiled together, the hotpot was quite abundant. Yuan Zhou didn't pay much attention to the taste, but cooked it casually this time.

It was a little cold during breakfast time, therefore Yuan Zhou prepared the hot Lotus Root Starch.

"Sigh. How wonderful it is if we can eat the Lotus Root Starch along with the foods sold outside." A customer sighed with emotion while drinking the Lotus Root Starch.

"It's not like Boss Yuan will drive you away if you do that." Another customer beside him drank a mouthful of refreshing and slightly sweet Lotus Root Starch blissfully and then said to him.

"Why do you still ask since you have known the answer?" The customer turned his face away and didn't talk to him anymore before he drank the Lotus Root Starch carefully.

There were many stall keepers selling breakfast in front of Yuan Zhou's restaurant. Those who became hungry while waiting and those who failed in getting their number ticket would have to make do with those foods. However, very few of them would like to eat Yuan Zhou's dishes along with the food outside.

Even if they intended to eat the steamed buns and soybean milk for breakfast, they would drink up the soybean milk outside first before they started to eat the steamed buns cooked by Yuan Zhou attentively.

No harm can be caused without comparison. This saying wasn't merely a joke in Yuan Zhou's restaurant.

The breakfast time was still as short as the ones in the past. After that, Yuan Zhou got seated by the door and kept sculpting the

radishes in different colors. The shelf was filled with the radish sculptures by the lunchtime.

Just as always, the customers entered the restaurant one by one after Zhou Jia announced that lunch time commenced.

Ling Hong came too. Naturally, he came for the new dish.

"Boss Yuan, you are really unfriendly. Why didn't you publicize the new dish on the microblog?" As soon he entered the restaurant, he said discontentedly.

"Ho Ho. To tell you specially? You don't seemed to have put on weight recently." Wu Hai, who always liked arguing with Ling Hong, said that before Yuan Zhou had time to answer him.

"Of course I didn't. Instead, I have a six-pack Instead, a painter like you who sits and draws every day should be cautious about your weak body." Ling Hong stroked his own hair and said without a care.

"Then why is your face so big?" Wu Hai snorted coldly.

"It's because I'm handsome." Ling Hong stroked his own chin.

"Ho Ho." With a sneering expression, Wu Hai looked at Ling Hong.

Even Yuan Zhou knitted his brows at the side. What a joke! There was definitely nobody better looking than him in this restaurant. Well, that was just what Yuan Zhou was thinking right now.

"Go away. I'm asking about the new dishes. Since you have finished your meal, please don't interrupt me." Ling Hong waved his hand and disregarded Wu Hai's sneer.

"I don't have the habit of advertising." Yuan Zhou answered naturally and sincerely.

"Boss Yuan is still so low-profile." One of the remaining customers who heard them speak instantly said that.

"Exactly. Even Boss Yuan was introduced to me by others."

Another person immediately echoed at the other side.

"I've never seen Boss Yuan ever advertise for his restaurant." The customer nodded approvingly.

"Yeah. Even for the TV program, it was because the TV station kept annoying him." It was a girl who had been fascinated by the TV program.

"Boss Yuan is indeed a low-profile person who has superb craftsmanship, like a great master that lies concealed in the bustling place." A customer summarized conclusively "Only in that way can we eat his dishes every day. Otherwise, we'll probably have to wait for a year or more if there are too many people." Some customers immediately nodded their head approvingly.

Naturally, Yuan Zhou heard all their conversations with his sharp ears and thus felt very happy. However, he still maintained his composure and appeared indifferent on the surface.

"I think this guy is just lazy." Ling Hong murmured discontentedly on hearing that.

"Pardon?" Yuan Zhou looked at Ling Hong.

"Nothing. How shall I eat the hotpot since there are no side ingredients?" Ling Hong denied it at once and then started to ask about the Spicy Hotpot.

"You can eat it in whatever way I like." Yuan Zhou said earnestly.

"Rice Served in Hotpot Soup! Yes, it's worth ordering." A customer thought of Wu Hai immediately and suggested loudly.

"Rice Served in Soup?" Ling Hong appeared quite surprised.

"Yes. It looked appetizing." It was a girl who proposed his suggestion. Seeing Ling Hong look at her, she nodded forcibly.

"Girl, this idea is very dangerous." Ling Hong said solemnly.

"No, it isn't. That Brother Wu eats it that way." The girl said with puzzlement.



"Ah, it's you! Look, what a bad influence you have on a girl! Can rice be eaten along with hotpot soup?" Ling Hong turned his head and looked at Wu Hai with deep hatred and resentment as if Wu Hai had done something that couldn't be pardoned.

"Do you have a different opinion?" Wu Hai sat down and asked indifferently while stroking his small mustaches.

"Of course. You are free to eat it strangely, but please don't set a bad example." Ling Hong said righteously.

"Hotpot must have side ingredients such as beef, mutton and pork, etc." Ling Hong added again.

"Why don't you try to ask Yuan Zhou for those things?" Wu Hai made a gesture of "Please".

"I will do that in a different way." Ling Hong smiled mysteriously.

"Ho Ho." Wu Hai still gazed at Ling Hong with an ironic look.

"Ta Ta". Ling Hong took two steps forward. He looked at Yuan Zhou smilingly and prepared to say something.

It had to be admitted that Ling Hong was rather handsome today. Despite the cold weather outside, he was still wearing a snow-white shirt and a flaxen business suit outside which revealed his collarbones. Judging from his sunny and handsome look, he didn't seem to feel cold.

As for Yuan Zhou, he was still wearing the Han clothing with the lotus-flower patterns. Yuan Zhou had always been wearing the lunar-white Han clothing recently. His tidy and clean short hair was concealed in the scholar's hat; the sleeves were narrow ones and the waistband was tied tight. Due to his superb craftsmanship, he looked tall and upright as well as confident on the whole.

Though his face wasn't as handsome as Ling Hong's, his rigorous and earnest manner attracted many girls' attention. At least, the girl that spoke just now had been watching Yuan Zhou for quite a

long time without blinking her eyes.

"Speak normally." Yuan Zhou said warily while looking at Ling Hong's expression that was filled with ill-intentions.

"I heard someone in the suburbs plant very nice radishes." Ling Hong looked at Yuan Zhou earnestly.

"So?" Yuan Zhou didn't react for a while. Did he smile with malicious intentions just to talk about the radishes?

"I noticed that you sculpted quite a few radish flowers today. Are you running out of your radishes?" Ling Hong smiled with even more malicious intentions this time, like a fox.

"Are you going to send me the radishes for free?" Yuan Zhou said naturally.

"Hey. Why can't you react in a normal way?" Ling Hong supported his forehead and felt quite speechless.

"So you won't send me the radishes, will you?" Yuan Zhou looked at Ling Hong with puzzlement.

"I can take you there for a visit so you can check by yourself." Only then did Ling Hong bring out his purpose.

"Okay. I will have time in the afternoon. Sorry to bother you." Yuan Zhou considered for three seconds and then said courteously.

"You are welcome. Perhaps I'll have to bother you by that time." Ling Hong waved his hand and answered generously.

"Um." Yuan Zhou nodded.

"Everybody, you can order your dishes now." Zhou Jia reminded.

"Okay. Everybody, please order your dishes." Yuan Zhou still appeared solemn when he talked.

Ling Hong returned to his seat and prepared to order dishes with a satisfied smile. At that time, Wu Hai spoke.

"What are you planning?" Although Wu Hai asked with a curious

tone, his expression didn't seem that way.

"You'll know that by the time." Ling Hong said with complete confidence.

"Whatever you have planned, it's definitely nothing good." Wu Hai said in a positive tone.

Upon hearing that, Ling Hong revealed an evil laugh. Of course, he hadn't planned anything good.

# Chapter 457: An Inappropriate Matter

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As Ling Hong had solved the matter about Yuan Zhou, he was very happy during lunchtime. Even with Wu Hai's provocation, he acted as if he hadn't seen it. Furthermore, he dealt with some business affairs on his phone delightedly.

Then, he stood in the restaurant and waited for Yuan Zhou to get off work.

And he appeared quite patient today. In normal times, one would never be able to see him being patient, except when he was waiting for Yuan Zhou to open the door.

"It truly turns out to be a conspiracy." Looking at Ling Hong, Wu Hai said with a click of his tongue.

"Uh-huh." Ling Hong just snorted and didn't answer him.

"Everyone is welcome to come back in the evening. Lunchtime has ended." Yuan Zhou brought out the words that symbolized the end of lunch.

After that, the customers walked out of the restaurant in twos and threes. They were quite used to Yuan Zhou opening and closing the door exactly on time and thus left cooperatively.

However, Master Cheng that usually left quietly didn't leave at once today.

"Let's go, Boss Yuan." Seeing everybody leave, Ling Hong went up and said to him immediately.

"Wait for a few minutes, please. I need to wash up first." Yuan Zhou gestured at the clothes on his body.

Ever since Yuan Zhou became a chef, a high-ended prince-charming chef, he had paid more attention to his own appearance.

It was a must for Yuan Zhou to change three sets of clothes every day for breakfast, lunch and dinner respectively. However, no one

had realized that as Yuan Zhou had three sets of clothes in the same color.

Rich and capricious! Yuan Zhou suited these words.

Nonetheless, the reason why Yuan Zhou changed clothes so frequently was very simple. Although there wasn't any smoke in the kitchen created by the system, Yuan Zhou still changed a set of clothes after each mealtime ended out of respect for the food.

"Okay. Hurry up." Ling Hong waved his hand and seem that he couldn't wait to leave.

"Okay." Yuan Zhou nodded. Just when he was about to left, he was stopped by Master Cheng.

"Master Yuan, how about I go with you to buy the vegetables." There wide smile on the plump face of Master Cheng.

"It's Ling Hong who will bring me there. You can ask him for permission." Instantly, Yuan Zhou understood what Master Cheng meant, but he still said that to him.

Master Cheng's purpose was naturally to see how Yuan Zhou selected radishes. Anything he learned belonged to himself.

"I don't care, but you have to drive yourself." Ling Hong shrugged and cared little about that.

"Thank you, Master Yuan. Don't worry, Mr. Ling. Of course I will drive myself there." Master Cheng first thanked Yuan Zhou before Ling Hong.

"You are really damn respectful to that Compass. It's obviously me who approve your request, but you surprisingly thanked Compass first." Ling Hong couldn't help grumbling.

Nonetheless, Yuan Zhou acted as if he hadn't heard him while Master Cheng was still carried a genial smile on his fat face.

"One moment, please. I'll be back right away." After Yuan Zhou said that, he turned around and went back upstairs.

Having been used to a quick shower after jogging early in the morning, Yuan Zhou only used about 10 minutes to take a shower, change clothes, and returned downstairs.

Thinking that he would be merely going out to buy vegetables, Yuan Zhou was dressed casually in a black thin woolen sweater, a brown wind coat, dark blue jeans and light brown casual shoes. On the whole, he looked refreshing and natural.

"Let's go, Compass." Once Ling Hong saw Yuan Zhou, he uttered.

"Thank you for waiting." With a nod, Yuan Zhou walked out of the door in quick steps and then locked it up.

"Ta Ta Ta". The footsteps of the three people sounded quite in sync. Not long afterwards, they arrived where they parked their cars. Almost all customers parked their cars here as there wasn't a parking lot around Yuan Zhou's restaurant.

Ling Hong's car was a bright yellow Ferrari super sports car that looked quite noble and expensive. It was indeed a car that suited Ling Hong's taste and only a prideful and narcissistic person like him would enjoy it.

At least, Yuan Zhou didn't like the car. In other words, he neither knew much about cars nor liked them. To him, the car was only a vehicle that moved more quickly than walking.

Ling Hong naturally wanted to make use of this rare opportunity and show off this luxury car to him. Having waited for quite a while, however, he didn't hear Yuan Zhou's compliments and thus couldn't help saying, "How do you like my car?"

"Not bad. It's just a little small to hold more than two people." Yuan Zhou nodded and said earnestly.

"Ahem Ahem. What did you say?" Ling Hong felt something went wrong with his ears.

Master Cheng tried hard to refrain from bursting into laughter at the side, which made Ling Hong realize that Yuan Zhou had indeed

said that.

"It's a little small." Yuan Zhou said again.

"Is there a sports car that holds four people in the world?" Ling Hong gnashed his teeth and said that.

"I don't know. The place is in the suburbs. We should move quickly." Yuan Zhou checked the time and then said earnestly.

"Okay. Mr. Ling, you lead the way and I will follow." Master Cheng responded to Yuan Zhou first and then he walked to his car.

His car was also very nice. The seemingly amiable man was surprisingly driving a sunset-orange SUV "Land Cruiser" worth about 1 million RMB. A senior chef turned out to be very wealthy.

"Your car looks bigger." Yuan Zhou looked at the petite Ferrari super sports car that parked beside the Land Cruiser and said positively.

"Ho Ho. My car costs 4.4388 million RMB. The transmission is a seven-speed, dual clutch unit and the engine is a V8 with the horsepower 557." Ling Hong snorted coldly and said that.

"Oh, yes. It's fairly expensive. Let's go." After a nod, Yuan Zhou said naturally.

"You really know nothing about cars." Ling Hong grumbled in an exasperated tone.

"I really don't know anything about it." Yuan Zhou nodded.

Master Cheng tried hard not to laugh out at the side.

After all, Ling Hong had originally wanted to show off his nice car, but never thought Yuan Zhou wouldn't know anything about cars. Certainly, he knew that the sports car was more expensive than Master Cheng's SUV. In his opinion, however, it indeed wasn't as big as the SUV.

Besides, Yuan Zhou believed that the bigger the vehicle was, the more expensive it cost. Was there any vehicle more expensive than

a maglev train?

Ling Hong had a mind to show off his luxury car and hence drove quickly at full speed on the way. As a result, they arrived at a bumpy road section within 40 minutes with the help of navigation.

"Ka Ka ka". The originally quiet and comfortable car suddenly emitted such sound.

"Damn it. It's surprisingly a muddy road." Ling Hong felt rather speechless and thus ridiculed.

"What's wrong?" Yuan Zhou asked after he kept silent all the way.

"The road ahead is too muddy. The car can't move anymore." Ling Hong turned off the engine and parked the car before he shrugged and said that.

"Master Yuan, we haven't arrived at our destination. I can drive you two there." Master Cheng parked his SUV beside Ling Hong's super sports car and then said considerately.

"No problem for me." Yuan Zhou nodded.

"Damn!" Looking at the much gravel and bumpy earth road outside, Ling Hong was reluctant to drive his luxury car anymore. Then, he opened the car door and got off.

"I'll go with you, too." Ling Hong's voice was quite downcast when he said that.

"Please, Master Yuan." Master Cheng got off the SUV and opened the passenger seat for Yuan Zhou, leaving Ling Hong alone.

However, he still said, "Mr. Ling, please sit at the back so you can show the way there."

"Got it. Keep driving and you'll see that place," said Ling Hong impatiently.

After all, things hadn't gone as smoothly as expected after they came out.



Ling Hong couldn't help ridiculing, "I just want to pretend to be cool and show off a little bit."

He should take a note in his diary,

"24th

Sunny

If Yuan Zhou is present, don't act cool and don't go out."

# Chapter 458: The Folks From The City Are All Crazy, I Will Raise the Price

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Having failed in acting cool, Ling Hong appeared to be a little depressed. Meanwhile, Yuan Zhou looked at the beautiful scenery in the suburbs and felt quite satisfied.

"I haven't been out here for a long time. It's great to see the greenery over here." Yuan Zhou signed with emotion.

"Boss Yuan, you don't often come out. The greenery is everywhere in the suburbs, so you can still see it now." Master Cheng said smilingly.

"Yeah, you are right. Ling Hong, is the place you mentioned privately owned?" After Yuan Zhou answered Master Cheng, he suddenly asked Ling Hong.

"Yes, it's privately owned. The ancestors of the owner were all farmers, thus he's quite skilled in growing vegetables. He has a big vegetable field and takes care of them by himself. Most importantly, he doesn't use any pesticides during the process." Ling Hong was fairly talkative when he spoke of the vegetable garden.

"It seems to be so." Yuan Zhou nodded.

"Boss Yuan, the ingredients in your restaurant are really good." Master Cheng suddenly sighed with emotion, saying that.

"Of course." Yuan Zhou nodded his head.

"His culinary skills are also marvelous." Ling Hong acknowledged that fact.

"Um." Yuan Zhou just nodded indifferently.

The SUV moved quite smoothly on the dirt road although it wasn't as comfortable as the sports car. In just a little while, they arrived at the vegetable garden mentioned by Ling Hong.

The vegetable garden was at the side of the earth road. The adjoining areas were about 6000 square meters or so. Some areas were covered with greenhouses and some were bare. There were still green vegetables growing vigorously in the soil.

"Peng". Master Cheng got off the SUV first and then he opened the door for Yuan Zhou. Naturally, Ling Hong was left there alone, again.

"Your lousy car moves really fast." Ling Hong looked at the SUV that had a high chassis without much dirt on it and said quite naturally.

"It definitely isn't as fast as your sports car." Master Cheng said courteously.

"The persimmons here are so nice." What appeared in sight after Yuan Zhou got off the SUV were the vegetables and fruits. Looking at the several scattered persimmon trees, he said earnestly.

"The color looks so bright and vivid." Ling Hong could only distinguish them based on these two aspects. One was the bright color and the other was the big size.

"Master Yuan, what kind of persimmon is it?" Master Cheng locked up his SUV and immediately asked.

"Luotian Sweet Persimmon, the only variety that gets rid of astringency naturally. I never thought it could be planted here." Yuan Zhou said straightforwardly.

Since he allowed Master Cheng to watch at the side, Yuan Zhou basically answered him whenever he asked a question, even though he never promised to take him as a disciple. Of course, it was due to Master Cheng acting respectfully and behave properly all the time.

"I have also heard of that. But aren't persimmons everywhere?" Master Cheng asked with puzzlement.

"These several trees are different. Judging from the variety, they

must be the trees originated in Zanzishi Village of Sanlifan Town in Luotian County. Its taste is closer to the authentic one." Yuan Zhou shook his head and then said.

"This young man is right. The several trees aren't inferior to those planted in that village at all." There suddenly came a male voice from the field.

"Master Qian, I have made an appointment. My surname is Ling." Ling Hong went up and greeted the man walking to him.

The person who walked here and praised Yuan Zhou was the owner here, Qian Jintian. He was about 50. There was both the simplicity of farmers and shrewdness of merchants on his face. Judging from his clothes, he had been working in the field until now. He was dressed in an old cotton padded coat which was stained with mud, cotton-padded trousers with the leg openings tightly tied, and a pair of rubber shoes on the feet.

"I know, I know. You guys came early when there aren't many people. But you told me there would only be two." Qian Jintian looked at the fat person, Master Cheng.

After all, Yuan Zhou spoke highly of his persimmons as soon as he arrived here; therefore, he looked like the one that was supposed to come together. As for Master Cheng, it was uncertain.

"This one won't pick vegetables. He just comes here to study." Ling Hong pointed at Master Cheng and said clearly.

"Right. I'm just visiting your vegetable gardens." Master Cheng immediately nodded and chimed in with Yuan Zhou, showing due respect for Yuan Zhou's feelings.

"Well, good." Qian Jintian rubbed his hands together to remove the mud and then nodded.

"You seem to know all about the goods and besides, the persimmons are mature. I can allow you to pick 1 kg. No more than 1 kg." Qian Jintian looked at Yuan Zhou who was neither conceited

nor rash and then said contently.

"Thank you." Yuan Zhou immediately expressed his gratitude with a smile.

"No need. I have to watch you guys when you pick in case you trample on other vegetables." Qian Jintian said quite proudly.

Even the wrinkles on his face revealed something like "If not for you knowing so much about the goods, I wouldn't sell them to you at all."

"Boss Yuan, what about we go to check the radishes first?" As Ling Hong had other intentions in the heart, he naturally had to make Yuan Zhou satisfied first.

"Okay. Sir, please take us to look at your radishes." After a nod, Yuan Zhou said to Qian Jintian who was leading the way ahead of them.

"Okay. There are many different varieties of radishes here. According to the traditional rules, however, you can't buy too much of each type. Otherwise, there won't be enough for others." Qian Jintian introduced to them while walking ahead.

That's right. Qian Jintian also had his own rules. Due to the limited amount, he has limits on each type of vegetable.

"Got it. These are your traditional rules while Boss Yuan has his Compass rules." Ling Hong nodded his head and answered.

Seeing Ling Hong nod his head, Qian Jintian didn't pay attention to his words anymore and continued leading the way.

"All these are the radishes. Although they are planted in the same area, managing them isn't easy at all." Qian Jintian said proudly as soon as he walked to the radish patch.

He took them across four patches before they arrived. The area ahead of them was separated into small grids and each of them had radishes in various colors and varieties planted inside.

"They are all very good. Among the radishes here, the Weiqing radish is the best." Yuan Zhou looked at the vegetable field in front of him and felt quite satisfied.

These radishes were much better than those sold in the vegetable market. Although they weren't so good as those provided by the system, they were still the excellent goods that people could rarely obtain. It could be seen that Qian Jintian cared much about the radishes.

"You really have a good insight. Among all my radishes, the Weiqing radishes are the best." Qian Jintian burst into laughter and then said quite contentedly.

"I'd like to buy some Weiqing radishes and Baiyuchun radishes." Yuan Zhou was fairly knowledgeable about the varieties of radishes.

"I have to admit that you know radishes quite well. Do you want to pull them out by yourself or let me help?" Qian Jintian thumbed up to Yuan Zhou and asked him.

"I have to bother you on that. I just know the varieties well, but you definitely will do better than me in pulling them out." Yuan Zhou was rather respectful of the old man.

"Of course." Qian Jintian nodded his head deservedly before he went to pull the radishes out.

"Master Qian, please help me with my vegetables, too." Ling Hong caught the opportunity timely and said immediately.

"No problem." Qian Jintian answered enthusiastically.

While he was pulling the radishes out, he asked them with great enthusiasm.

"Are you also buying them to cook dinner back home?" Qian Jintian knew that some rich families usually came to buy his vegetables for the sake of safety and authentic tastes and hence asked.

"Nope. We are going to eat hotpot." Ling Hong shook his head and said.

"Well, it's also not bad to eat hotpot back home." Qian Jintian nodded.

"No. We'll eat the hotpot in the restaurant." Ling Hong followed.

"Eat in the restaurant? Aren't there side ingredients prepared for the hotpot in the restaurant?" Qian Jintian remembered this person had ordered many vegetables and meat.

"No, there aren't. The restaurant serves only the hotpot soup rather than the vegetables." Ling Hong nodded.

"And do people go there for meals?" Qian Jintian asked.

"It's more exaggerated than that. If you don't line up early, there'll be no vacant seats for you." Ling Hong told him frankly.

"Is there really a restaurant who don't provide side ingredients?" When Qian Jintian found Ling Hong didn't seem to be lying, he kept silent for a while and then asked in surprise.

"Why should a hotpot restaurant provide the side ingredients?" Ling Hong looked at Qian Jintian with a puzzled look.

"..." Qian Jintian lowered his head and remained silent, especially when he saw the expressions of Yuan Zhou and Master Cheng.

However, he felt rather speechless in the heart.

"These damn city folks must be crazy. If a hotpot restaurant doesn't provide side ingredients, does it sell only the soup?" Qian Jintian couldn't help ridiculing in the heart.

Of course, another idea popped up in his mind at once

"Since the hotpot restaurants in the city no longer provide side ingredients and still have so many people lining up to eat, why shouldn't I raise the price?" While pulling the radishes out, Qian Jintian thought about the feasibility of this idea carefully.

# Chapter 459: A Disciple And His Teacher

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"Master Qian, this is good enough. Thank you." Yuan Zhou stopped Qian Jintian from pulling out another radish.

"Well, ok. I just wanted to check how it is growing." Qian Jintian took another look at the radish that he had intended to touch just now.

"Okay." Yuan Zhou nodded his head and said no more.

"Just give them to me. Thank you so much." Master Cheng moved forward with a basket and picked up the radishes.

"Put it in the basket." Yuan Zhou took out a piece of cloth and handed it to Master Cheng.

Of course, the baskets had already been prepared by Master Qian, one for each person. Yuan Zhou's basket was naturally being held by Master Cheng, but he had prepared his own cloth. Now that he wasn't holding the basket, he gave the cloth to Master Cheng.

"Thank you, Master Yuan." Master Cheng received the cloth happily and used it to protect his hand.

The hands of chefs and tailors are very precious and required careful protection.

Therefore, the most good-looking part on Yuan Zhou's body was his pair of hands, which was even better-looking than his face.

"Go ahead." Yuan Zhou nodded.

"What an enjoyment it is to have a disciple!" Ling Hong said at the side.

"He's not my disciple." Yuan Zhou corrected him earnestly.

"Oh, yeah, you are right. He's not your disciple. Let's go to pick some other vegetables." Ling Hong shrugged and corrected his words easily.



"Good." Yuan Zhou nodded.

From the side, Master Cheng heard Yuan Zhou saying that he was not Yuan Zhou's disciple, but he didn't say anything, merely clearing away the radishes carefully.

Only Qian Jintian looked at Master Cheng, then at Ling Hong and last at Yuan Zhou in puzzlement.

"It seems that only you are experienced and steady." Qian Jintian said earnestly.

Of course, Qian Jintian said this because Yuan Zhou appeared to be quite mature. Besides, he couldn't quite understand why Master Cheng called Yuan Zhou teacher since he was apparently older than him.

However, he now learned that city folks were just strange. How could they manage to eat a hotpot without any side ingredients?

"Well, I am usually very steady." Yuan Zhou nodded and answered shamelessly.

"Boss Yuan, a man must be honest. It's a fact that you have wonderful culinary skills, but what does it have anything to do with steadiness?" Ling Hong couldn't help ridiculing.

"It's all the same." Yuan Zhou believed that anything complimentary to himself was correct.

"Pfft." When Ling Hong remembered that he had to rely on Yuan Zhou to select the vegetables, he refrained from saying anything and just snorted coldly.

That's right. Ling Hong's idea was to let Yuan Zhou select the vegetables. Though he was a senior foodie, he really didn't know how to distinguish between the wheat and Chinese chives.

Nonetheless, Yuan Zhou was different. The Precious Ingredient Contest held last time was definitely an eye-opener for Ling Hong. Before that, he had never eaten, or even heard of those various

ingredients.

While walking, Ling Hong started to ask Yuan Zhou about the vegetables in the field, "What's this vegetable? Is it still growing in such weather?"

"*Lactuca sativa*. It's growing very well." Yuan Zhou answered naturally.

"Master Qian, please pick some *lactuca sativa* for me. I heard it tastes good when blanched in the hotpot." Ling Hong didn't know how the vegetables looked in the field, but he knew their names.

"No problem." After a nod, Qian Jintian picked some fresh ones off and put them in the basket.

"This one also looks nice. Boss Yuan, I have never seen this vegetable in your restaurant." Ling Hong pointed at a vegetable and asked Yuan Zhou again before they walked out of the area.

"*Asparagus lettuce*. There is none in the restaurant." Yuan Zhou nodded his head and replied affirmatively.

"Is this the so-called *Cos Lettuce*?" Ling Hong asked, suddenly recalled.

"Yeah, this is what townspeople like you usually call it, the *Cos Lettuce*." It was Qian Jintian who answered him this time.

Just as before, Ling Hong naturally ordered some.

After that, Yuan Zhou immediately realized Ling Hong intentions.

It was truly obvious and easy to guess. Everytime Ling Hong asked about the vegetables, he would let Master Qian pick some for him as long as it was suitable for the hotpot.

And Yuan Zhou just answered him cooperatively everytime he asked until the basket was filled full.

Ling Hong was also quite satisfied. When Ling Hong prepared to pick some persimmons and meat, Yuan Zhou started talking.

"If the vegetables are blanched in the Spicy Hotpot, they will absorb the spiciness." Yuan Zhou said affirmatively. He had no idea that Ling Hong didn't really eat spicy dishes.

"Never mind. Young man, you just blanch them in the Clear Soup Hotpot." Master Qian suggested kindly.

"What if there's no Clear Soup Hotpot?" Ling Hong was stunned for a while before he could react.

"Yes. The boss hasn't provided the Clear Soup Hotpot yet." Yuan Zhou nodded.

"It doesn't matter if you can eat spicy things. This broccoli is extraordinarily tasty when it's cooked spicy." Though Qian Jintian wasn't young, he was quick-minded.

"It can be eaten raw as well," In Ling Hong's opinion, misjudging the situation was alright. Just don't admit it.

"Yeah, right. It's totally not a problem to eat it raw." Qian Jintian said loudly with great confidence.

"Okay. Whatever you like." Yuan Zhou nodded without much expression.

He didn't wait to say it on purpose. The vegetables here were really not bad and it was good for Ling Hong to buy some more.

It was merely about 2 hours before they ended their trip, including picking the vegetable, selecting the vegetables and processing the meat.

"Master Yuan, are we going back to the restaurant directly?" Once Master Cheng got on his SUV, he asked Yuan Zhou.

He didn't intend to ask Ling Hong's opinion.

"Yes, back to the restaurant." Yuan Zhou nodded.

"Boss Yuan, can you keep the Spicy Hotpot for me today?" Looking at the well-wrapped vegetables in the trunk, Ling Hong said excitedly.

"Just follow the rules, please." Yuan Zhou said indifferently.

"When exactly can you make an exception for once?" Ling Hong was speechless for some time before he shouted.

"It won't happen, ever." On this aspect, Yuan Zhou was sure.

"By the way, if you want to take them to the restaurant to eat, you need to wash them cleanly and pack them well." Yuan Zhou suddenly remembered that and reminded him.

"Got it, got it. How stubborn!" Ling Hong replied, exasperated.

While Ling Hong was speechless due to Yuan Zhou and Master Cheng, someone else also had the same situation on the other side.

The situation seemed to be a little complicated.

"Master, shall we eat dinner together in a while?" A young man, dressed in a Yves Saint Laurent gray leisure suit and holding the latest Apple phone, was making a call.

"Humph. You still remember that you have a teacher?" An aged voice could be heard from the other end of the phone.

"Of course I do. Let's just meet at Taoxi Road. The dishes served there are said to be very delicious. I remember that you like eating delicious food, don't you?" The young man turned around and said in a composed manner.

After he turned around, a pair of glasses with golden frame could be seen on his face. He had a cultured and good-looking appearance, and he spoke leisurely.

"I haven't seen you for almost a year after you left. I thought you died outside." The aged voice carried obvious anger.

"Then you can come around tonight and see me personally." In the young man's voice was a hint of a smile.

"Humph." The elderly voice only snorted lightly this time without answering him.

"Do you need me to pick you up? The place is at No. 14 of Taoxi Road." The young man replied teasingly, as if he was quite sure that the old man would come.

"I'm not qualified to bother you. It won't even take me 20 minutes to walk there." Judging from the answer, the aged man was obviously dissatisfied with the attitude of the young man. He replied indignantly.

"Okay. I will wait for you in the Master Chef Restaurant." The young man had already expected this outcome.

"This bastard disciple." Was the last sentence from the old man before hanging up.

Nonetheless, the young man seemed to have been used to the old man's attitude. He walked towards Yuan Zhou's restaurant leisurely.

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# Chapter 460: Conflict and Influence

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Countless people came to Yuan Zhou's restaurant every day, therefore such customers were quite common.

When Yuan Zhou arrived at the intersection, Ling Hong immediately opened the door and got off the SUV before Master Cheng went to park his car steadily.

"Park the car here. I'll take my vegetables." Once Ling Hong got off the SUV, he kept thinking about his vegetables.

What a joke! The vegetables were his achievement of the whole afternoon. He didn't even have time to worry about his Ferrari sports car.

"One minute, please." Master Cheng parked the car and then got off to open the trunk.

"Come on. Let me do it myself." Ling Hong was always quite proactive about things that were edible and delicious.

After all, even with his spoilt character as a young master, he could still tolerate Yuan Zhou's stubborn rules. That could sufficiently explain how persistent he was in delicacies.

"Mr. Ling, you don't know how to put them. Let me do it." Master Cheng didn't give way to him, but just stood at the trunk and said that.

"They are all well-wrapped. How could you say that?" Ling Hong said discontentedly.

"These vegetables are all wrapped up by Boss Yuan. He has placed each vegetable and meat in different positions. If pressure is applied to the vegetables, it might cause the taste to turn bad." Master Cheng explained earnestly.

"Okay okay. I won't touch it. You do it." Ling Hong raised his hands overhead and indicated that he wouldn't touch it.

"Just put them like how I did just now." Yuan Zhou said in the SUV.

"Okay." Master Cheng nodded his head.

Then, he moved the vegetables to the trunk of the sports car carefully and swiftly.

Because the engine was at the rear part of the super sports car, the trunk was actually at the front.

Of course, the arrangement of the vegetables was exactly the same as how it had been arranged by Yuan Zhou just now. In this regard, Master Cheng was capable.

Nowadays, Master Cheng could study everything from Yuan Zhou when he stayed beside him, including cooking, processing and washing of the ingredients, and even the sculpting, sometimes.

It was impossible for him to be omnipotent. However, Yuan Zhou also told him that having some knowledge could help him to improve his culinary skills.

"See you in the evening." Ling Hong waved his hand and stepped on the accelerator. Then, the sports car disappeared in an instant.

It was so fast that neither of Yuan Zhou and Master Cheng reacted.

"Fortunately, I didn't say anything," thought Yuan Zhou to himself.

"Master Yuan, let me drive you to the intersection of Taoxi Road, ok?" Master Cheng asked while driving.

"Okay. You can go back home later. I'm not going to sculpt today." Yuan Zhou nodded and then said.

"Okay. Thank you, Master Yuan." A delighted smile appeared on Master Cheng's face.

"Okay. Take care on the way back." Thinking of the speed of the

sports car, Yuan Zhou specifically instructed him.

"Don't worry." Master Cheng answered with a nod.

The SUV wasn't as comfortable the super sports car, but it definitely had more room. Besides, it didn't have problems when it came to speed either. Sure enough, they arrived at the Taoxi Road in just a little while.

As usual, Master Cheng opened the door for Yuan Zhou to get off his SUV. However, Yuan Zhou didn't let him carry the radishes for him this time, but took them by himself.

Only after Yuan Zhou left did Master Cheng turn around and drive away, too.

Time flew. After Yuan Zhou returned to his restaurant, he naturally started to wash the radishes and then dried them in the sun, preparing to sculpt them the next day and cook some new dishes.

Naturally, Ling Hong went back home directly. He asked his people to wash, cut and package the vegetables and then sent them back to him.

However, the chefs in his villa started a heated discussion.

"Rich people nowadays are getting stranger and stranger. They go to a restaurant that doesn't even own a kitchen knife to eat hotpot and moreover, they have to buy and prepare the side ingredients by themselves." The kitchen helper murmured while he was washing.

"All rich people have some eccentric traits." Even the head chef couldn't help echoing.

No matter how the chefs thought, Ling Hong had high expectations for the meal and thus started to call his friends.

The young man only arrived at Yuan Zhou's restaurant about half an hour before the dinner time.



Of course, it wasn't because he walked slowly, but because he carefully calculated the time. His teacher would probably arrive at around this time.

"Is it so small?" It was the first reaction of the young man when he saw Yuan Zhou's restaurant.

The young man was the old man's disciple and his name was Xie Jun. The old man, Lian Ji, was a master watch-and-clock-repairing craftsman.

Well, it was the type that did their business along the streets.

Judging from the young man's clothing and apparel, however, he wasn't that kind of person.

Therefore, Xie Jun was thinking to find a restaurant that served the most expensive and delicious dishes and treat his teacher a decent meal in order to prove that his thinking and practice were right.

"It's too small." Xie Jun knitted his brows when he saw the crowd lining up outside Yuan Zhou's restaurant.

The first reaction upon seeing Yuan Zhou's restaurant was that it was much too small. After all, this restaurant was a synonym for the most expensive and delicious dishes, as said throughout the internet.

"Is this the restaurant you found? It looks nice and you seem to be successful in your business." A sarcastic voice sounded beside him.

"Of course. The restaurant is indeed very good." The moment Xie Jun saw his teacher, he said with a smile, without any discontent on his face.

As it was he himself who had intended to flaunt in front of his teacher, he had to persist regardless.

Now that there were so many people waiting in line, at least the

dishes should be delicious.

"Humph. Treating your teacher in this tiny restaurant, I think you're getting worse and worse." Lian Ji snorted coldly.

"We need to line up here. Shall we go?" Xie Jun instead replied with a smile.

"When you studied, you didn't work hard. And when you can't make a decent living now, you come to me. I won't help you." Lian Ji kept scolding his disciple, but still he lined up.

"Don't worry about that. You don't even have a pension, so this disciple will support you when you are too old to work." When Xie Jun said that, he kept smiling all along.

"It would be great if you don't ask me for help when I'm old. I told you to study hard, but you didn't. And now, you end up like that." Lian Ji looked at his own disciple with a manner of contempt.

Other customers lining up at the side nevertheless got puzzled.

Lian Ji was dressed in a plain thin cotton shirt and simple black suit pants. His shoes were also the casual cotton shoes.

On the other than, Xie Jun was obviously wearing all branded clothes worth at least ten thousand RMB from top to bottom, even excluding the Panerai Radiomir10DaySGMT that cost one hundred thousand RMB on his wrist.

At any rate, he wasn't like a loser.

"What an odd teacher and disciple pair!" A customer murmured.

The other customers all looked at the two of them curiously.

However, the teacher and disciple were still talking, ignoring the people around them.

In most cases, Lian Ji reproved Xie Jun while Xie Jun contradicted him with a smile and moreover, constantly winning the arguments with sass.

Luckily, they didn't quarrel for long before Yuan Zhou's restaurant opened.

As soon as they entered the restaurant, Lian Ji picked up the exquisite menu painted with lotus-flower patterns and prepared to order dishes.

"Ho Ho. It seems you really become rich. You have surprisingly learned to waste money." Lian Ji slapped on the table and scolded his disciple loudly.

That's right. In Lian Ji's opinion, the prices on the menu equaled to waste."

It would be surprising if he didn't get furious when he saw the Roast Goose worth 5888 RMB and Clear Broth Noodle Soup worth 268 RMB on the menu.

"Don't worry. I can afford them." Xie Jun stopped Lian Ji and let him sit down.

"Don't do anything beyond your means just to be impressive." Lian Ji pushed away Xie Jun's hand immediately.

Just when Xie Jun wanted to say something, Yuan Zhou uttered first.

"Sorry for bothering you. Now is the time to order dishes. What do you want to eat today?" Yuan Zhou came over solemnly to ask about the order and gave them a chance to calm down.

The quarrel between the two people affected other customers. When such things happen, Yuan Zhou usually dealt with it by himself.

# Chapter 461: Result

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"Sorry, I'm sorry. I didn't notice that." Lian Ji stood up first, feeling a little embarrassed.

"Never mind. Sit down, please. What do you want to eat today?" Yuan Zhou said calmly. He didn't seem to be angry.

"Well, ask him." Looking at the price, Lian Ji hesitated for a while and then looked at Xie Jun indignantly.

"Please get me a Clear Broth Noodle Soup Set, Translucent Beef Slices, Egg Fried Rice Set, Jinling Grass, Dongpo Pig Knuckle and Roast Goose." Without any hesitation, Xie Jun ordered several dishes.

Besides, what he ordered was all expensive dishes, which made Lian Jie blush at the side. This single meal almost cost ten thousand RMB.

"There is no Roast Goose today." Yuan Zhou said naturally.

"Then get me a serving of Phoenix-Tail Prawns, instead." Xie Jun didn't say anything more, but immediately changed another dish.

Anyway, he came here today just to prove he had money now. More frankly, he wanted to posture in front of his teacher.

Of course, he must order the expensive dishes.

"Okay. Please wait a moment." After a nod, Yuan Zhou turned around and went to prepare the meal. And Zhou Jia was in charge of receiving the payment.

After that, Lian Ji was unable to bear it anymore and revealed an angry look.

"Why do you pretend to be wealthy? How many months' worth of salary does this meal cost?" Lian Ji pointed at Xie Jun in an exasperated manner and asked in a low voice.

"Teacher, I can afford to eat here every day with my salary. It's

just that I won't save much money." Xie Jun said that lightly.

"Do you think you really are wealthy just because I said so? You have done no decent work every day. Don't call me teacher." While Lian Ji said that, he couldn't help slapping the table again.

"Excuse me. This is a dining place. Could you please be quiet?" One of the customers, Su Mu, looked at them and said with a frown.

The two people were really noisy and didn't seem to be finishing their debate anytime soon ever since they lined up just now.

"Yeah. What are you eating here for if you two don't have a good relationship?" Immediately, another customer chimed in with Su Mu.

"Exactly. You have affected us having our meal." More people started to murmur like that.

After all, with someone else quarrelling at the side, no one could enjoy delicacies with ease.

"Humph." Lian Ji didn't apologize this time, but just snorted coldly and discontentedly.

"Sorry, it won't happen again. We are about to eat." Instead, Xie Jun expressed his apology to them politely.

"Good." Su Mu nodded his head.

After saying that, Zhou Jia carried the dishes ordered to them.

"Please enjoy your meal." Zhou Jia said courteously.

There was sort of confidence in her tone. They definitely wouldn't quarrel with each other once they started eating the dishes. Zhou Jia was quite confident of Yuan Zhou's dishes.

"Teacher, shall we eat first?" Xie Jun said to Lian Ji earnestly.

"Yes, of course. I'm quite qualified to eat your flesh and blood." Lian Jie snorted coldly again as usual.

"Teacher, I have been working in the repair department of Bulgari for almost one year." Looking at Lian Ji's angry face, Xie Jun sighed and said.

"What? You really went there?" Lian Ji asked him in surprise and with puzzlement. The originally scooped fried rice fell back into the bowl again.

"Yes. They offered me an irresistible salary." Xie Jun answered carefully.

"Irresistible? On the first day when you came to study from me, I told you that the watches aren't merely an object and repairing watches isn't a business and transaction, either. You have to ensure that you make the best out of it." Lian Ji pointed at Xie Jun and sounded heartbroken.

"Um." Xie Jun nodded, only indicating that he remembered that.

Seeing Xie Jun only nod his head indifferently, Lian Ji became angrier.

"I don't understand why you went there. You can't take the dog you are raising as an object, can you?" Lian Ji suddenly remembered that Xie Jun loved dogs very much and thus illustrated it with an example.

"No, I can't. But there are also many people who know how to raise dogs and then sell them. They just want to find a nice master for the dogs. And it's also a skill to raise dogs." Xie Jun answered peacefully.

"You little brat!" Lian Ji was made speechless immediately.

"With your wonderful craftsmanship, you can easily work there as a supervisor. What do you think?" Xie Jun looked at Lian Ji earnestly.

"I refused you last time and it is no exception this time." Lian Ji refused blankly.

"You are too stubborn. Isn't craftsmanship used for earning money to live?" Xie Jun knitted his brows and said.

"Do you think I can't support myself?" Lian Ji stared at Xie Jun and said discontentedly.

"But you are not living a decent life while I can eat such nice dishes at any time," said Xie Jun while pointing at the exquisite dishes of Yuan Zhou's restaurant.

"I have a good time." Staring at Xie Jun, Lian Ji contradicted him.

"It's a total waste if you don't use your craftsmanship to have a better life." Xie Jun sighed.

"I have told you that repairing watches is not a business or a transaction. You are no more than a dabbler in this industry." Lian Ji snorted coldly. Obviously, he looked down upon Xie Jun's craftsmanship.

"You are right. This dabbler is using his craftsmanship to treat you to a meal here." Xie Ju shrugged.

"Let's eat. The dishes here are said to be quite delicious." Before Lian Ji got furious, Xie Jun pointed at the dishes and said immediately.

"Considering the very high prices, they would taste great even if there are actually not." Lian Ji took the price too much to heart.

"You'll know the taste after you try some." Xie Jun moved the dishes to Lian Ji a little bit.

Lian Ji stopped talking this time. He took the spoon and started to eat.

"They turn out to be a teacher and his disciple." Hearing their conversation, Yuan Zhou muttered in his heart.

"The economic inequality is so obvious." Yuan Zhou looked at their clothing and made such a judgement.

However, Yuan Zhou was right. The two people were indeed

watch repairmen yet in different positions. One was working in a repair department of an international luxury watch company while the other was repairing watches along the streets.

As a result, the economic inequality between them was naturally large.

After all, one earned a high yearly salary while the other earned money that was barely enough to make a basic living.

While they were eating, it appeared quite harmonious. They no longer quarreled and even occasionally talked a little bit.

Once the delicious dishes entered his mouth, Lian Ji wasn't as solemn as before anymore. When Xie Jun asked something, he would simply answer him.

"Teacher, the gear dial plate of the mechanical watch..." Xie Jun asked some profound knowledge about the watch.

"All you do is thinking of stealing my craftsmanship all day long." Lian Ji first gave a contemptuous look to Xie Jun and then answered.

Xie Jun shrugged and cared little about that. For things he had to ask, he still asked.

Lian Ji usually only answered in a leisurely manner after he savored a mouthful of Jinling Grass and Phoenix Tail Prawns.

However, he sneered at Xie Jun whenever he spoke, saying he didn't have a good craftsmanship.

Therefore, the meal between them went on boisterously. Fortunately, they rarely spoke loudly and thus, other customers didn't say anything more.

After the meal, the two of them walked out of Yuan Zhou's restaurant shoulder to shoulder. People could vaguely hear Xie Ju's voice to suggest Lian Ji to go to Bulgari and work, but he was still refused flatly by the stubborn teacher, Lian Ji.



Well, not in a very polite manner.

"It's really strange. They don't agree with each other on their worldview and concepts and don't seem to be in a good relationship, but don't seem to be bad." Su Mu looked at the way the teacher and disciple left and murmured in puzzlement.

"Things don't necessarily require a right or wrong. It's not like they must convince each other." Wu Hai had a deep feeling about that.

For example, he didn't feel that he and Zheng Jiawei had the same worldview, but that had no influence on Zheng Jiawei being his brother-in-law.

Many things in the world were vague like that.

## Chapter 462: Wu Hai's Snack

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"Thank you all for coming. See you in the evening." Zhou Jia stood at the door and said smilingly.

Then, the customers left soon one after another.

In the end, only Wu Hai, Su Mu and Ling Hong still stayed there.

"Boss Yuan, I know a very good fruit & veggie shop. How about I take you there for a visit?" Su Mu said to Yuan Zhou sincerely while looking at him.

"You are stealing my idea." Ling Hong snorted coldly with disdain.

"But it works." Su Mu smiled indifferently.

The three people stayed here naturally for Yuan Zhou.

Ling Hong brought a pile of vegetables and meat last time and had a decent hotpot. Naturally, the several other people were envious of that, not to mention that Ling Hong told them proudly that Yuan Zhou helped him to select these vegetables.

That made the several other people more envious. Therefore, Su Mu prepared to use this old trick, again.

"No, thanks. I haven't even sculpted the radishes bought yesterday." Yuan Zhou refused blankly.

"Don't you want to have more, Boss Yuan?" Su Mu said mildly.

"Fresh ones are easier to sculpt." Yuan Zhou answered earnestly.

As for Su Mu's purpose, Yuan Zhou was certainly quite clear, but sculpting mattered more. It was definitely not because he was too lazy to go out. Well, that was the reason.

"Like I said, you can't do it." Ling Hong shrugged and then said confidently.

"Never mind. I will have other solutions." Su Mu wasn't

discouraged at all. Instead, he said with confidence.

"Boss Yuan, are you going out today?" Having kept silent for quite a while, Wu Hai suddenly said that at the side.

"No, I won't." Yuan Zhou answered positively.

"Great. I will bring you some snacks this afternoon." Wu Hai stroked his small mustaches and said smilingly.

Wu Hai was very smart. He didn't say a single word about helping him to buy vegetables, but contrarily turned around and left.

"Tsk-tsk. You are surprisingly trying to bribe him. Shame on you, small mustache." Su Mu pointed at Wu Hai and shouted.

"No, no. We are just communicating." Wu Hai said complacently.

"We know you have learned cooking from Boss Yuan. So what?" Naturally, Su Mu knew about this matter.

After all, Wu Hai had shown off this experience in front of them for a long time.

He especially liked showing off in front of Master Cheng.

"Only some vegetable dishes that are barely acceptable." Ling Hong hit the nail on the head.

"Even so, I cooked it under Boss Yuan's personal instructions." Wu Hai was quite proud.

"That was a very simple trade between us." Yuan Zhou immediately explained, trying to show innocence.

What a joke! What a shock it would be if Wu Hai told others that his craftsmanship was learned from Yuan Zhou!

"You are right. Still, you have taught me for three days." After saying that, Wu Hai turned around and left. Upon hearing that, Yuan Zhou found it inappropriate to contradict him.

"See you in the evening." Yuan Zhou said to the remaining two

people.

Only when they realized Yuan Zhou appeared to be preparing to see the customers out did the two people start to leave.

"See you." Su Mu and Ling Hong said at the same time.

"Um." Yuan Zhou nodded his head.

"Ta Ta Ta". The footsteps of the two people sounded to be consistent.

"I can finally sculpt." Yuan Zhou sat down and took a rest for a while before he muttered to himself.

After that, he moved the chair and some other stuff to the door and prepared to sculpt.

"The cold breeze blows gently. It feels so good." Seated at the door, Yuan Zhou said softly after a puff of cold wind.

"Zhi Ya". He stood up and opened the door wider so that the warm air inside could provide him with some warmth.

Having done all that, Yuan Zhou got seated and prepared to sculpt.

"Vegetables, vegetables! Who wants green bamboo shoots?" While Yuan Zhou was selecting the radishes, an aged voice passed from a distance.

An old granny dressed in a deep red cotton-padded coat and black plush trousers was peddling in the street while carrying two large bamboo baskets.

Just in a little while, she walked to the restaurant that served noodles.

"Boss, do you want to buy some green bamboo shoots? They are newly picked and are very fresh." The old granny revealed a smile on her face and asked the boss enthusiastically.

"No, I don't." The female boss refused her directly.

"The price is originally 2.5 per 500g. I can offer you 2.2." The old granny was still trying to promote her bamboo shoots. While saying that, she even showed the bamboo basket to her.

"Go away. You are affecting my business." The female boss was originally quite mean. After she said that, she even reached out his hand to push the old granny away.

"Okay. Sorry for bothering you." The old granny didn't say anything more, but just smiled and carried her green bamboo shoots towards Yuan Zhou's restaurant.

"Ta Ta Ta". Her footsteps sounded quite steady.

"Boss, want some green bamboo shoots?" The old granny asked Yuan Zhou with enthusiasm immediately at the sight of Yuan Zhou.

"How much is it?" Yuan Zhou considered for a second and asked.

"2.2 per 500g. It was 2.5 in the morning." The old granny said clearly.

The vegetables in the bamboo baskets were not much. The several different vegetables weighed no more than 3 kilos in all.

"Please weigh all the vegetables. I will go bring my basket here." After that, Yuan Zhou turned around and entered his restaurant.

There was a bamboo basket on the first floor of the pub. He could use it to put the vegetables in.

"Thank you, boss. I will weigh them right now." A delighted smile appeared on the granny's face. She sorted out the vegetables cleanly with her clean hands full of calluses.

After Yuan Zhou took out the basket, the old granny had sorted out all the remaining vegetables separately. The green bamboo shoots and the small cabbage plants were laid out in order and waiting to be weighed.

"Get them weighed and put in the basket." Yuan Zhou put the

basket beside the feet of the old granny and said earnestly.

"Okay. Look, boss. My scales are the most accurate." The granny took her black scale and said with a big smile.

"Um." Yuan Zhou nodded.

"Green bamboo shoots 1.9 kilos; cabbage plants 0.75 kilos and 0.5 kilos of spinach. That's all." The old granny reported the weights while weighing.

Yuan Zhou just responded with a nod.

When Yuan Zhou paid money, the old granny even rounded up the figure on her own initiative.

"Thank you, boss." The old granny said happily with the money in her hand.

"You are welcome. Take care." Yuan Zhou watched the old granny leave with her empty bamboo baskets.

Only after the old granny walked further did Yuan Zhou watch the basket full of vegetables and mutter, "It seems like I can have some vegetable soup tonight."

Shortly afterwards, Wu Hai came downstairs from the building across the street. He was carrying a plate with a lid over it.

"It's the snack made by you?" Yuan Zhou pointed at the plate in Wu Hai's hands.

"Yeah. It's definitely tasty." Wu Hai said confidently.

"What is it?" Yuan Zhou asked calmly.

"Mandarin duck cake, a variety of local snack from the He'nan Province." Wu Hai said that unprepared.

"I hope this cake didn't require many colors." Yuan Zhou asked again cautiously.

"Of course not." Wu Hai looked at Yuan Zhou with a strange gaze.

"Okay." Yuan Zhou finally nodded with safety.

Wu Hai took a step forward and suddenly saw the basket full of vegetables at the door.

"You bought vegetables?" Wu Hai felt strange and then asked.

"Not really. Someone came to sell the vegetables and I bought some for myself." Yuan Zhou said lightly.

"It is 3:40 p.m. right now, the good time to eat snacks." Wu Hai stroked his small mustaches and looked at Yuan Zhou fervently.

"Well, let me taste it." Yuan Zhou took a much longer while to consider this time before saying that, even longer than the process of buying the vegetables.

"Let's go and taste it inside." Wu Hai carried the plate and walked into the restaurant.

"Um." After a nod, Yuan Zhou followed him into the restaurant.

## Chapter 463: Elongated Steamed Buns

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"We rarely see you buy vegetables from outside." Wu Hai said while walking forward.

"Not too often." Yuan Zhou nodded.

"Speaking of which, you definitely haven't eaten this cake before, Boss Yuan." Wu Hai set the plate down and said proudly.

"Never." Yuan Zhou thought for a while and confirmed that he truly hadn't eaten it before. Nor had he heard of that, either.

"I have eaten it before. When I held an art exhibition in He'nan Province, I learned to make the cake after I ate it only once." Wu Hai said with a quite complacent tone.

"Only once?" Yuan Zhou started to feel uneasy again.

"Don't worry. Though I am not good at cooking dishes, I'm qualified to prepare the wheaten food." Wu Hai struck his chest as a gesture of guarantee.

"Can you open it and let me have a look?" Yuan Zhou pretended to be calm with a straight face.

He made up his mind not to eat it if the food looked weird later.

"No problem, but please give me a knife first." Wu Hai nodded and then said.

"Okay. One moment, please." Yuan Zhou went back into the kitchen, took out the most ordinary knife he had and then handed it to Wu Hai.

Of course, the point of the knife was in the direction of Yuan Zhou himself when he handed it to Wu Hai, who seized the knife handle and then removed the lid from the plate, afterwards.

"Now it's time for the mandarin duck cake now. Don't you think it looks nice?" Wu Hai said proudly once he removed the lid.



In the white round plate without any patterns lay a rectangular cake with both sides rounded. The cake was about one-finger-width thick and there was a layer of white sesame seed over the surface of the cake.

On the whole, the cake appeared to be light yellow and had probably been panfried. No matter how Yuan Zhou observed, it was totally unrelated to the mandarin duck.

"What does it have anything to do with the mandarin duck? Yuan Zhou asked with puzzlement.

"It will have something to do with it soon." Wu Hai smiled mysteriously and then started to cut with the kitchen knife.

Yuan Zhou had thought Wu Hai could cut some sort of mechanism out.

As he could see, Wu Hai straightforwardly cut the cake about 20cm long into two parts from the side.

Then, Wu Hai raised his head and asked excitedly, "How do you like it? Aren't they like the wings of the mandarin duck?"

"Pardon?" Yuan Zhou was confused.

How did it become like the wings of the mandarin duck after it was cut sideways into two pieces.

"Which part is like the wings?" Yuan Zhou asked sincerely.

"Look at it from this direction. Aren't they like wings now?" Wu Hai moved the two pieces of the cake a little bit and then showed them to Yuan Zhou, saying that.

"Let's savor the taste, shall we?" Yuan Zhou stared at the plate for quite a while and then said.

"This one is for you. I eat this one." Wu Hai specially gave Yuan Zhou a bigger piece of the cake.

"Not necessary. I deserve a smaller one as I will only be eating the cake while you made it." Yuan Zhou took the chopsticks and picked

up the smaller one without saying much.

"Okay. Just try the taste of the Mandarin Duck Cake I made." Wu Hai was fairly confident of the cake.

"Um." Yuan Zhou nodded earnestly.

Before eating, Yuan Zhou took his own cup and drank some water to rinse out the mouth while Wu Hai naturally drank the water that he had brought with himself. After all, Yuan Zhou didn't provide anything outside business hours.

Only after Yuan Zhou drank up the water and ensured there weren't any other tastes in his mouth did he start to eat Wu Hai's Mandarin Duck Cake.

"Ka Ca". Yuan Zhou took a bite.

There was slightly scorched crispness on the surface outside while the inside surface was the soft and fluffy flour layer, mixing with the middle part which was filled with green onions.

"How do you like it? Is it delicious?" Wu Hai hadn't started to eat the half piece of the cake as he was still waiting for Yuan Zhou's comments.

"Is this a cake?" Yuan Zhou asked with puzzlement.

"Of course. The local snack of He'nan Province, Mandarin Duck Cake." Wu Hai said proudly.

"Are you sure that you didn't elongate a steamed bun and panfry it?" Though it was an interrogative sentence, Yuan Zhou said that with an affirmative tone.

"Elongated a steamed bun?" Wu Hai indicated that he didn't quite understand Yuan Zhou.

"Where's the fold of this steamed bun?" Yuan Zhou looked at the cake in his hand for quite a while and then asked with puzzlement.

"I have told you it's a Mandarin Duck Cake, not a steamed bun." Wu Hai was made a little speechless.

"From the taste to the appearance, it's exactly like a steamed bun." Yuan Zhou said earnestly.

"You must have forgotten a procedure when you make the steamed buns." Yuan Zhou thought for a little while and added.

"It's a cake. It's the Mandarin Duck Cake." Wu Hai got so angry that his small mustaches almost turned up.

"You taste it yourself and you tell me if it tastes like a steamed bun." Yuan Zhou reached out his hand and made a gesture.

"Humph." Wu Hai took up the cake and gave it a bite.

Then, he became stupefied. The taste was really like that of the steamed buns, especially after Yuan Zhou stressed on that.

It was unknown if that could be attributed to the psychological effects.

The soft and slightly thick inner layer and the fresh and salty stuffing made no difference from the characteristics of the steamed buns.

"Well, this steamed bun really tastes good." Yuan Zhou took a bite again and said affirmatively.

"Yeah, this steamed bun is wonderful." Wu Hai picked up the plate and left Yuan Zhou's restaurant with quick steps while he was chewing the Mandarin Duck Cake.

After that, Yuan Zhou ate up the elongated panfried steamed bun silently.

And Yuan Zhou had much admiration for Wu Hai. After all, it wasn't easy to make the taste of a cake into that of a steamed bun. Therefore, he ate up the entire cake without any hesitation.

Yuan Zhou indeed didn't use the ingredients of the system for his own dinner at night. Instead, he prepared a pot of veggie soup made of cabbage and vegetables bought from the old granny. The vegetables were pest free and had no pesticides as well.

Furthermore, they tasted scrumptious.

Yuan Zhou was quite satisfied with the dinner.

It was early in the morning on the following day. As it had rained last night, the street was still a little damp.

After the breakfast time ended in the morning, Yuan Zhou sat at the door and started to sculpt.

Of course, Wu Hai was extraordinarily silent during the breakfast time this morning.

"He might be upset because he didn't know how to fold the steamed buns." Yuan Zhou refrained from bursting into laughter and thought that way.

Time was quite limited yesterday and he didn't manage to sculpt all the radishes. Naturally, such quality radishes all had to be sculpted when they were still fresh. Otherwise, they would be wasted.

Yuan Zhou opened the door at 8:00 a.m. for breakfast and finished it at 9:00 a.m. It was slightly after 9:20 a.m. when Yuan Zhou sat on the chair. At that time, the old granny that came to peddle vegetables yesterday walked towards him again.

However, she didn't peddle the vegetables along the street again today, but headed for Yuan Zhou that sat at the door straightforwardly.

"Boss, I saw that you bought so many vegetables yesterday and reckoned you might need them today. The vegetables yesterday weren't so fresh. These are the newly picked early this morning. You select some for your own use first and then I will go peddle the remaining ones." The old granny looked at Yuan Zhou smilingly and said that.

"Thank you." Yuan Zhou was stupefied for a moment before he answered her with gratitude.

"You are welcome. I should thank you for buying all the remaining vegetables yesterday. Please have a look at which ones you need. The vegetables picked in the morning are fresher." The old granny waved her hand with a smile first and then said that while pointing at the fresh vegetables with raindrops in the big bamboo baskets.

"Then, I'd like some vegetables that I bought yesterday." Yuan Zhou revealed a smile and said naturally.

"Do you want to select them by yourself or should I select some for you? They are all very fresh." The old granny was extraordinarily proud when she spoke of the freshness of her vegetables.

"Please select some for me. All of them are quite good." Yuan Zhou nodded his head smilingly.

"Okay. Let me do it for you." The old granny said happily.

"I'm going to get a basket." After saying that, Yuan Zhou went to fetch the basket and conveniently put the green bamboo shoots obtained yesterday aside.

"I will select some for you and put them at the side." The old granny answered with a delighted manner.

Both Yuan Zhou and the old granny moved dexterously. In just a few minutes, they finished the weighing and paying. Afterwards, the old granny carried the baskets with her carrying pole and headed for the marketplace with quick steps.

"It seems that my lunch will be still the veggie soup. Not bad." Yuan Zhou took the basket and revealed happiness in his word.

# Chapter 464: Engagement

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In the early morning, Yuan Zhou wasn't the only person that was busy and warmed.

The shy man, namely the person that often came to Yuan Zhou's restaurant for meals, took the hand of the girl beside him tight.

The girl was naturally the one that the shy man often waited to eat together.

"Who else do you think we should invite to our engagement?" The shy man took the girl's hand carefully and looked at her with a distressed expression.

"We have invited all your relatives and friends and mine. Who else should we invite? I always feel we are missing someone." The shy man was a little puzzled.

Likewise, the girl nodded her head to show her consent.

"Who else should we invite?" The shy man looked at the girl and asked.

As usual, the girl shook her head and said nothing while looking at the man affectionately.

"A Luo, I won't be able to help myself but kiss you if you look at me that way." The shy man bent over and said by the girl's ear.

Instantly, the girl blushed thoroughly.

She reached out her delicate hand and pinched his waist.

"Hiss... It hurts. It's all because you are too lovable, A Luo." The shy man shouted and meanwhile said that.

As soon as he shouted, the girl became so worried that she immediately checked him from top to bottom, fearing he might have gotten hurt.

"I'm lying, A Luo. Don't worry. It's not so painful. Let's think

over carefully whom else we should invite." The shy man held the girl's hands and said earnestly to her with his eyes and eyebrows relaxing.

Only then did the girl called A Luo nod her head, but she still appeared a little angry.

"Be good, A Luo. If you still feel angry, you can hit me." The shy man started to coax the girl while taking her hands.

The way the shy man coaxed and amused the girl almost as skilled as Ling Hong. One was totally unable to tell how the man behaved when he had waited for her at the door of Yuan Zhou's restaurant formerly.

The name of the shy man was Guo Rui. At that time, he had tried to approach the girl for almost one consecutive month in Yuan Zhou's restaurant. He managed to sit beside the girl every time, but didn't even say a single word to A Luo. Only when he saw her warm smile later did he dare to go up to talk with her.

He had persisted in that for another two months until the weather turned cold. Everytime he talked, however, A Luo just kept silent. At the beginning, he was quite frustrated, but when he saw the girl's smile, he felt it all worthwhile.

The shy man managed to preserve in this way and eventually got the girl.

"What's the matter?" Guo Rui looked at A Luo and asked her with puzzlement.

However, the girl just pointed at a small store without a shop sign behind them, but said nothing.

"Do you want to drink some water?" Guo Rui asked while looking at the conspicuous mineral water bottles in front of the store.

A Luo shook her head firmly, indicating that she didn't.

"Then what do you mean?" Seeing A Luo make some gestures,

Guo Rui still couldn't understand her.

Nonetheless, Guo Rui finally reacted when A Luo pointed at the small store again.

"Got it. You mean Yuan Zhou's restaurant. Oh, yeah. We forget to invite them." Guo Rui saw the light suddenly.

This time, A Luo nodded her head forcibly.

"Yeah, that's it. It turns out that we have forgotten our matchmaker." Guo Rui pinched A Luo's cheeks lightly and appeared to be happy.

Nevertheless, the girl got rid of Guo Rui's hand reproachfully.

"Okay. I surrender. Let's go to invite them now." Guo Rui immediately made a gesture of surrender and said with a spoiled tone.

Of the two lovers, the man spoke while the girl listened. There were no obvious changes since the moment Guo Rui went after the girl at the beginning. Then, they headed for Yuan Zhou's restaurant together harmoniously.

When they passed a candy store, the girl stopped Guo Rui and went to select some similar invitation cards. Only when they wrote all the names on them did they leave.

The old granny had already left quite a while ago when they arrived there. And Yuan Zhou happened to finish sculpting the radishes and was preparing the ingredients for lunch.

"Hi, Boss Yuan." Guo Rui first greeted him.

Yuan Zhou tidied up the ingredients and washed his hands before he raised his head and looked at them.

When he saw the two lovers, however, he was a little surprised.

"The two of you really ended up together?" Yuan Zhou had actually heard of the question Ling Hong had once asked Guo Rui.



Well, Ling Hong told him about that when he drank liquor at night one day.

Though Yuan Zhou was actually quite interested in this matter in the heart, he appeared as normal as before.

He just answered lightly, "Hello. Business hours have not started yet."

"We know that. We are just coming around to send the invitation cards." Guo Rui revealed a delighted look.

"Invitation cards? Are you getting married?" Yuan Zhou was truly astonished this time. He asked two questions continuously.

Once Yuan Zhou asked, the girl became a little shy with a blush appearing on her white face. Contrarily, Guo Rui answered Yuan Zhou smilingly, "No, but close to that. We are getting engaged."

"Engagement is good... Oh, no. It's also exaggerated to get engaged." Yuan Zhou tried hard and finally managed to refrain from gossiping, merely thinking that in his heart.

After all, Yuan Zhou was way too curious. Since Guo Rui had mentioned that he didn't like the disabled, how come that he could end up together with A Luo.

For the sake of his own aloof figure as a prince charming, however, Yuan Zhou still nodded and said, "Please accept my best wishes. I'll go and attend your engagement."

"Thank you for your kind wishes, Boss Yuan." Immediately, Guo Rui took out an exquisite invitation card and handed it to him.

"You are welcome." Yuan Zhou received the card with his hands and put it in the drawer meticulously.

"And please tell them to attend my engagement, too. The invitation cards are all here." Guo Rui took out a bigger invitation card as exquisite as the former one this time.

Two mandarin ducks that swam intimately together were

painted on the card. Furthermore, there was a big character of "Happiness" on the surface.

"What's this?" Yuan Zhou received this invitation card with puzzlement.

"I'm thinking that Ling Hong, Wu Hai, and Man Man could attend the ceremony together, but it's not good to send individual cards to each of them," said Guo Rui. He felt a little embarrassed upon saying that.

His thought was very simple. If he gave each of them an invitation card, they probably would give back some cash gifts respectively and that would be embarrassing. If he gave only an invitation card to all of them as a whole, that would be more convenient.

The convenience offered to others would bring convenience to oneself. This was the thought of Guo Rui.

"Um?" Yuan Zhou didn't react immediately. He was still curious about their love story.

"All their names are written on the invitation card. I'm inviting them whole-hearted with sincerity." Guo Rui said earnestly.

"Okay. I will give it to them all." After the explanation, Yuan Zhou finally reacted.

"Thank you. I will come again at noon to invite you guys personally. Sorry for bothering you, Boss Yuan." Guo Rui thanked him again and again.

"No problem." Yuan Zhou shook his head indifferently.

Having thanked him again, Guo Rui and A Luo left temporarily. The reason why he left suddenly was because A Luo had been pulling his hand secretly.

This time, she wanted to go to the bathroom. Guo Rui immediately realized her intention and hence gave the invitation

card to Yuan Zhou, hoping that he could send it to the several people.

As soon they left, Wu Hai walked to Yuan Zhou's restaurant in cotton slippers and prepared to have a meal.

"You came just in time. This is for you." At the sight of Wu Hai, Yuan Zhou took out the invitation card and handed it to him.

"What the hell is it? A red bomb?" The originally sluggish look on Wu Hai's face instantly disappeared.

"It's an invitation card." Yuan Zhou said earnestly.

"I know it's an invitation card. I have just been away for a single morning. Are you getting married?" Wu Hai pointed at Yuan Zhou and said loudly with an incredulous look.

# Chapter 465: A New Sculpture

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"Have you lost your mind after drawing everyday?" Yuan Zhou said with a firm tone.

"Let's first leave this matter aside. Who are you going to marry? Why didn't we get any information about this?" Wu Hai stroked his mustaches and appeared quite confused.

"Read the invitation card yourself," Yuan Zhou said angrily.

"At the sight of the invitation card for your marriage, I feel that the whole world has suddenly changed." Wu Hai mumbled and sputtered.

"This is the invitation card for an engagement." Yuan Zhou corrected him.

"It's all the same." Wu Hai waved his hand, indicating he didn't care if it was marriage or engagement. Anyway, it was abrupt and caused astonishment.

Just as he prepared to open the invitation card that he had dropped aside due to his shock, Wu Hai suddenly shouted loudly, "Boss Yuan, will you close the restaurant if you get married?"

"You don't need to use a phone from now on. You can just shout." Yuan Zhou was startled by Wu Hai's sudden shout. He said that after he calmed down.

"No, no, no. Please answer my question. It's very important." Wu Hai looked at Yuan Zhou earnestly.

"Read the invitation card now." Yuan Zhou answered solemnly.

"Is the application for leave also written on the invitation card?" Wu Hai looked at the invitation card in his hand and revealed a puzzled look.

"You'll know about that after reading it." Yuan Zhou took a deep breath and repeated again.

"Sigh." Wu Hai signed and then opened the invitation card.

There written on the invitation card was the exact date of the engagement and the names of the lovers, side by side.

"Boss Yuan, when did you meet this girl named Qin Luo?" Wu Hai was relieved when he opened the invitation card and found there wasn't a leave request contained inside. Only then did he start to check whom the girl was.

Yuan Zhou turned a deaf ear to Wu Hai's question. The name of the man was just there and Wu Hai could find how stupid he was just now in the end.

"Huh? Did you also invite Ling Hong and some other customers?" Wu Hai, surprisingly, still didn't see who the leading man was.

"Be quiet while reading." Yuan Zhou's tone was quite serious.

"This is merely an invitation card, not a book." Wu Hai shrugged.

"Wait. Who's Guo Rui?" When Wu Hai lowered his head to indicate that it was just an invitation card, he finally caught sight of the name of the man in his side vision.

"The main character of the engagement." Yuan Zhou said concisely and comprehensively.

"So it turns out to it isn't you who's going to get married. You really scared me." Wu Hai was relieved and sat down on the chair naturally.

"Um." Yuan Zhou nodded and looked at Wu Hai.

Yuan Zhou looked at Wu Hai silently and waited to see him get embarrassed. However, without the slightest embarrassment, Wu Hai just revealed an unperturbed and relaxed look while looking around at the invitation card.

Then, Yuan Zhou became speechless.

"I shouldn't have underestimate your thick skin." Yuan Zhou couldn't help but support his forehead.

"Um?" Wu Hai looked at with an innocent expression while stroking his small mustaches.

"Nothing." Yuan Zhou said primly.

"Speaking of which, if you aren't the one getting married, why are you handing out the invitation cards? That caused my misunderstanding in the first place." Wu Hai looked at Yuan Zhou, his face written with dissatisfaction.

"So I am to blame, right?" Yuan Zhou said peacefully.

"Of course." Wu Hai stroked his small mustaches and said deservedly.

Looking at Wu Hai's shameless manner, Yuan Zhou really wanted to beat him to death, but he managed to resist the impulse in the end for the sake of his image. After that, he began to work attentively silently and didn't talk to anybody.

"If it's not your marriage, whose invitation card is it? There are even our names written on it." Wu Hai pointed at the invitation card and said curiously.

Yuan Zhou just responded with silence as if he hadn't heard him.

"Boss Yuan?" Wu Hai revealed a puzzled look.

However, Yuan Zhou still didn't say anything. He was wiping and washing the water sink attentively.

It was lucky that Guo Rui and A Luo returned at that time before Wu Hai continued to say something.

Once they entered the restaurant and saw Wu Hai, Guo Rui greeted him first, "Hi, Brother Wu Hai. I'm Guo Rui."

They knew each other, but usually Guo Rui spoke very little and never introduced himself to others. It was the first time that he had introduced himself properly.

"Um. It has been a while." Wu Hai nodded.

"Is the invitation card yours?" Wu Hai was very smart. He guessed the moment he saw the girl.

"Yes, it's the invitation card for our engagement. Please do attend it." Guo Rui said solemnly.

"Sure. I will definitely go since it's your big event." Wu Hai looked at the girl without a trace and then answered.

"Thank you. Sorry for bothering you." Guo Rui nodded happily.

"Not really." Wu Hai shook his head.

Like Yuan Zhou, he was also very curious about how they ended up together. However, his temperament didn't allow him to ask about that randomly. At that time, Yuan Zhou started to look forward to Ling Hong arriving.

After all, this person always did things without any restraint. He liked asking directly about anything he was interested in.

Nevertheless, it was Su Mu who arrived at Yuan Zhou's restaurant ahead of Ling Hong.

"Boss Yuan, let's go to buy vegetables, shall we?" Su Mu asked directly.

"No. They are still there, unused." Yuan Zhou said cleanly.

"I've got a great idea. If I tell you, will you go with me to buy vegetables?" Su Mu didn't really mind Yuan Zhou's refusal and continued to ask.

"Oh?" Yuan Zhou was rather puzzled.

"There are really many things that made people puzzled today." Yuan Zhou ridiculed in the heart, but he still appeared to be uninterested in that.

"It's really a brilliant idea. It's about sculpting." Judging from Su Mu's expression, he wouldn't give up until he successfully aroused Yuan Zhou's interest.

"Go ahead." Yuan Zhou said lightly.

"Are you going to buy vegetables with me if I tell you?" Su Mu was reluctant to suffer losses.

"I'm not sure. But you can tell me about that great idea after business time ends." Yuan Zhou crossed his hands against his chest and said lightly.

"Okay. I will tell you later," answered Su Mu.

Not long after that, Ling Hong also arrived at Yuan Zhou's restaurant. As soon as he caught sight of Guo Rui and A Luo, who appeared to be a pair of lovers, he immediately expressed his astonishment.

"Did you two end up together now?" Ling Hong revealed a suspicious look on his sunny face.

"Yes, we are together." Guo Rui held A Luo's hands tight and answered earnestly.

"Congratulations!" Ling Hong nodded and then said directly.

"Thank you." Guo Rui thanked him. With her eyes and eyebrows curved, A Luo appeared quite happy at the side.

"I'll receive the invitation for all of them. But can you come out for a moment?" Taking the invitation card, Ling Hong prepared to put it back in his car and meanwhile called Guo Rui together.

"A Luo, wait for a moment. I'll be right back. Don't miss me." Guo Rui still talked softly, but sounded more confident.

The girl just nodded her head and waved her hand at him with a smile.

"Ta Ta Ta". Ling Hong walked farther with Guo Rui. Yuan Zhou and Wu Hai were just doing their own work at the side and didn't appear curious. Anyway, Ling Hong would tell them on his own in the end.

Ling Hong and Guo Rui didn't walk very long before they arrived



at Ling Hong's sports car. Ling Hong put the invitation card down naturally and started to ask.

"Didn't you tell me that you wanted to find a girl as healthy as you? But you know she can't talk. It's reality." Ling Hong asked the question straightforwardly.

"Yeah, sure. That's why I become more talkative." Guo Rui answered naturally.

"Let's go. The meal time is going to start shortly." Ling Hong became stupefied for an instant before he said as if nothing had happened.

"Okay." Guo Rui nodded.

They didn't talk more the whole way. Nor did Ling Hong ask him anything anymore either.

Bottom lines didn't mean that they couldn't be changed. It just meant if it was worth it to be changed.

If you didn't talk, I would talk more. It was a perfect match.

# Chapter 466: Here For You

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Guo Rui and A Luo, who were to be engaged soon, had an excessively sweet atmosphere when they were eating. Coincidentally, Wu Hai was seated beside them.

"Aren't you prepared to take care of the feeling of single dogs (a joking appellation referring to those who are unmarried nor have a girlfriend)?" Wu Hai stroked his small mustaches and appeared indignant.

Just when Guo Rui was about to say something, A Luo dragged him lightly at the side. Once he turned his head, he found the girl blinking to him.

Then, Guo Rui seemed to understand something. He immediately turned his head and said to Wu Hai, "I hope Brother Wu can find a girlfriend as soon as possible."

While speaking of that, he appeared quite earnest. In his opinion, he had to be very sincere since his girlfriend asked him to say that.

"Hiss..." Guo Rui didn't manage to get Wu Hai's answer before he was pinched by A Luo.

He turned his head and found A Luo appeared dissatisfied and even snorted lightly.

"Huh? Didn't you want me to say that?" Guo Rui then reacted.

It turned out that A Luo didn't really want him to say that. He just misunderstood her.

Wu Hai was totally speechless at the side, "I'm just eating something delicious here. Must you two show off your intimacy in front of me?"

"Heh-heh." The titter came from Guo Rui while A Luo smiled shyly with her mouth closed.

"Boss Yuan, I need more delicacies to heal my wounds. Please get

me a cup of watermelon juice." Wu Hai turned his head and said to Zhou Jia standing at the side.

"Okay. One moment, please." Zhou Jia was quite professional. She didn't laugh out loud upon hearing that.

Go, go ahead." Wu Hai revealed a look of heartache.

"Actually, I don't think you are a single dog." Yuan Zhou suddenly said.

"Um?" Wu Hai looked at Yuan Zhou with puzzlement.

"Broth bites bad guys harshly. You don't do it as well as him." Yuan Zhou pointed at Broth outside and said primly.

Because Yuan Zhou had suddenly thought of that thief of delicious foods.

"It can't do better than me. I can bite three dogs like him alone." Wu Hai said with a scornful look.

"What do you mean by 'bite'?" Ling Hong looked at Wu Hai in surprise.

"Back in the days, I moved about freely in the circle of medium-sized and small dogs. Even for the large dogs, I feared none except the Tibetan mastiff." Wu Hai said proudly.

"Ho Ho. I don't see the point that you are proud of." Ling Hong supported his forehead.

Seated at the door, Broth barked at Wu Hai as if it had understood their conversations.

"Let me repeat once again. You can't bite me as badly as I can bite you." Wu Hai looked at Broth and stressed complacently.

"You are really disappointing. You even start to compare with Broth on biting people." Man Man said with a speechless manner.

"Carry it to him quickly." Yuan Zhou took up the cup of watermelon juice freshly squeezed and said to Zhou Jia.

Then, Zhou Jia carried it to Wu Hai hurriedly in case he acted foolishly again.

"It turns out that the sense of shame depends on different people." Yuan Zhou ridiculed in the heart.

Yuan Zhou didn't think for long before he was interrupted by a clear and melodious voice.

"Hi. Can I take photos here?" It was a girl who asked that. As soon as she entered the restaurant, she spoke a Suzhou dialect and asked.

The girl was dressed in a black T-shirt, a thick and solid camo jacket, and black cargo pants. She had a high ponytail on her head and didn't use any cosmetics on her face. With a professional camera in her hands, she appeared youthful and energetic.

"What photos do you want to take?" Yuan Zhou asked carefully.

"It's that thing. I saw this glass wall landscape on TV and there had very rare algae inside. So I came here to take some photos." The girl explained the details politely.

"Okay." Yuan Zhou nodded.

"Thank you." The girl immediately smiled happily.

"Why do you want to take photos of them for?" Ling Hong always wanted to strike up a conversation with beautiful girls.

"I'm a painter for plant science." Speaking of her own occupation, she was quite content and proud.

"That sounds awesome." Ling Hong was very good at talking.

"I'm just good at drawing things." After the girl said humbly, she held the camera and approached the sergestes wall landscape.

The sound of "Ka Ca Ka Ca" was heard without an end. The girl was taking photos seriously over there.

She crouched, tiptoed and attached the lens on the glass every

now and then and simply wanted to take a photo from all angles.

The girl was taking photos blissfully with her face looking excited and content.

The name of the girl was Zhao Jing. She wasn't a Chengdu resident, but came from the south. In a video shared by others, she caught sight of the very rare red algae inside of the wall landscape.

Formerly, she heard that these red algae only existed in the Irish sea. Never had she expected they could exist here in Yuan Zhou's restaurant. As a painter of plant science, she naturally rushed over from tens of thousands of miles away.

Only when she finished taking photos did Zhou Jia go up and ask her.

"What do you want to eat?" Zhou Jia asked mildly.

"What shall I eat? Get me an Egg Fried Rice Set." Only after she finished the work did Zhao Jing find there happened to be a vacant seat. She immediately answered with embarrassment.

"Okay. One moment, please." Zhou Jia led her to the vacant seat and then answered.

Only then did she start to explain to her the rule of serving meals after payment was made. Zhao Jing naturally paid for that hurriedly.

Zhou Jia received the money carefully and then reported the dishes.

As Zhao Jing had lined up to get into the restaurant, she could naturally eat there. This was one of the rules in Yuan Zhou's restaurant.

Everything went smoothly except for Wu Hai's foolish behavior during the dinner time. As soon as business hours ended, Yuan Zhou shut the door mercilessly.

"Ta Ta Ta". While the sound of footsteps faded away gradually,

only Su Mu and Yuan Zhou were left there in the restaurant.

"You can tell me now." Yuan Zhou said earnestly while wiping the azure stone countertop.

"Boss Yuan, I see you only sculpt with radishes every time. That's way too dull." Su Mu considered for a while and then said with a mysterious look.

"It's a little difficult for me to sculpt with tofu," Yuan Zhou said primly.

"I'm not talking about that one. That has long existed." Su Mu waved his hand and indicated that it wasn't what he meant.

"Then what is it?" Yuan Zhou asked indifferently.

"Broccoli and bok choy. Of course, banana is also fine." Su Mu said confidently.

He totally believed that Yuan Zhou would be tempted. After all, Yuan Zhou was a shut-in who seldom surfed the internet. This was known to all the regular customers.

However, Su Mu was different. He liked all kinds of weird and odd things and often surfed the internet. Therefore, he found that.

"I know something about fruit sculpture." Yuan Zhou indicated that he had some knowledge of fruit sculpting.

"Did you ever think of the broccoli sculpture? Or can you sculpt the bok choy? Or bananas?" Su Mu asked back in disbelief.

"No." Yuan Zhou answered cleanly.

"So I help you open a new train of thought." Su Mu said proudly.

"Yes, that indeed counts. So I will also tell you directly about the matter of buying vegetables." Yuan Zhou glanced at Su Mu and said quite naturally.

"You agree?" Su Mu's beautiful peach blossom eyes were filled with excitement.

"Um. Select the fruits that have been pecked by birds, as they will taste sweeter..." Yuan Zhou first nodded his head and then started to introduce the frequently-used fruits and vegetables.

"Wait. Boss Yuan, what do you mean?" Su Mu asked with puzzlement.

"Since you told you a new train of thought, I will also tell you how to select the quality fruits and vegetables free of charge. No need for thanks." Yuan Zhou revealed a deserved expression.

"That seems to make some sense when you say it that way." Su Mu said blankly.

"That's for sure. Keep listening to me." Yuan Zhou nodded and then continued telling him.

During the process, he also mentioned some of his own skills. However, Su Mu just appeared muddled and puzzled...

# Chapter 467: Finding Fault

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"The selection of frequently-used vegetables is more or less like that. You can go back now." Yuan Zhou said peacefully.

He spoke as if it wasn't him who gave the long speech.

"Um, okay. Good." If it were a cartoon, Su Mu's eyes would totally be like the mosquito coil incense right now. He was dizzy just from listening.

"Take care on the way." Yuan Zhou said to Su Mu who appeared to be in a daze.

"Goodbye." Su Mu answered subconsciously.

"Ta Ta Ta". Yuan Zhou only sat down when Su Mu's footsteps passed away.

"Well, I tactfully avoided going out again." Yuan Zhou spoke highly of himself quite proudly.

After all, he was a shut-in and instinctively hated going out. However, looking for delicacies didn't count.

"System, show me the status of the mission." Yuan Zhou suddenly thought of the girl that had been here to have a meal just now.

[Upgrade mission] Coming here for you

(Mission tips: Please complete the mission that requires 100 customers to come specifically to eat the delicacies in the restaurant within 30 days.)

[Mission reward] Upgrade once; drawing a lottery once; a special reward; a reward for the intermediate chef

(Reward tips: More rewards are in the hand of the master chef system. Work hard to level up, young man!)

[Mission status] 88/100



"Wait. I remembered there were already 88 people at noon." Yuan Zhou pointed at the status of the mission and said.

The system displayed, "Yes."

"Then why is it still 88 now? System, do you have a delay?" Yuan Zhou asked with puzzlement.

Yuan Zhou clearly remembered that Zhao Jing had said she specially came here for Yuan Zhou's red algae.

The system displayed, "No, there isn't."

"Then there are supposed to be 89 people." Yuan Zhou said affirmatively.

However, the system didn't answer him.

"The girl that came here in the evening was obviously speaking a dialect from the south. As soon as she arrived in Chengdu, she came here for a meal. Did you omit her?" Yuan Zhou said in a quite earnest tone.

The system displayed, "The requirement of the mission is that she must come especially for your excellent craftsmanship."

"Yeah, she indeed had dinner." Yuan Zhou said deservedly.

The system was a little speechless. Apparently, Zhao Jing sat down to have dinner because she felt embarrassed after she had taken the photos here for such a long time. Nonetheless, Yuan Zhou surprisingly dared to say it was his contribution without hesitation.

It truly seemed to be a truth that "keep good company and you shall be one of them".

The system displayed, "That customer originally came to take photos of the red algae."

"Um. But she was attracted by my craftsmanship and thus stayed." Yuan Zhou nodded and said.

"Because I took part in the shooting of the TV program. Due to my excellent performance, the TV station came for a second time. Due to my superb craftsmanship, I was known by people throughout the internet and then she got the opportunity to see me. So whatever you say, she came for my craftsmanship." Yuan Zhou explained primly.

The restaurant was so quiet that even the sound of a needle falling on the ground could be heard. For a while, the system was unable to find a reason to contradict his false reasoning. Having fallen silent for quite a while, it revised the status of the mission.

"Yeah, good. That's my good system." Yuan Zhou said with a gratified look.

However, the system directly disappeared and no longer answered him.

"It's getting closer and closer to the 60% revenue sharing." Yuan Zhou didn't care about the system's disappearance. He was looking at the status of the mission with satisfaction. There was already 89 people and he had to finish the leveling-up mission with 11 more people before being able to obtain the 60% revenue sharing from the total.

Yet, the remaining time wasn't much, either. Only one week was left now.

Having persuaded the system, Yuan Zhou felt quite satisfied. During pub time, he worked harder than before to enhance his culinary skills.

When he went to bed at night, Yuan Zhou had a very sound sleep. The system-branded sound insulator was trustworthy.

Early the next morning, Yuan Zhou got up and did his exercises as usual. There was little probability to complete the mission during the breakfast time. However, Yuan Zhou wouldn't take that into his considerations after he had started to cook breakfast.

Besides, Yuan Zhou had good luck last night and received the royal jelly from the rock bees again. Moreover, he only shook his phone for two hours and got the number 1. He was truly lucky.

At noontime,

"It seems that Huang Li will come over here today. However, I haven't seen Mu Xiaoyun for a long time." Yuan Zhou looked at the customers lining up outside and murmured in the heart.

The name, Huang Li, mentioned by Yuan Zhou was naturally the younger brother and his sister. Normally, every time Yuan Zhou served the dish of Honey Tremella, he could be seen in Yuan Zhou's restaurant.

He was the No. 1 fan of Yuan Zhou apart from Tang Xi.

And due to the limited quantity, the regular customers normally wouldn't order this dish after they found out about him.

Of course, those who were observant and came for the first time had to be excluded. For example, this one.

"Boss, get us two servings of Honey Tremella." It was a customer who had barely entered the restaurant among the first 20 customers.

Meanwhile, the young man Huang Li was still behind them.

"Okay. What else do you need?" Zhou Jia went up with a smile and asked.

"No need. Who knows if they are delicious with them being so expensive?" The customer curled his lip and appeared much more arrogant than Lee Yanyi.

This person was dressed in a brown sweater knitted with thin woolen yarn, a black thin cotton jacket outside, and plain black business pants. He was of medium height and carried a prideful expression on his face. When he measured Yuan Zhou, there was full of contempt in his eyes.

The other one was also of medium height and spoke little. Basically, it was his companion that kept chattering. However, that wasn't because he was mild, but because he was more arrogant than his companion. He even laid a handkerchief on the chair and sat on it while his eyebrows were knitted tightly on his plain face as if it were a great discomfort just to stay here.

"It's 42 RMB in all. We only accept payment first before the meal." Zhou Jia wasn't cordial anymore. She just said politely.

"Tsk-tsk. Even a small restaurant has so many weird rules?" While speaking of that, the person took out his money.

"Here." The person took out several pieces of banknotes and handed them to Zhou Jia.

"Wait a moment, please." Zhou Jia pinched the money tight and then said.

"Go quickly. There isn't even a helper here." The person complained again while the other one nodded his head approvingly.

"They seem a little familiar." His attention attracted by the person, Master Cheng muttered to himself with puzzlement.

In just a little while, however, he was attracted by Yuan Zhou's showy culinary skills and had no time to take notice of the two clown-like people.

At least, other customers also thought that way. After all, they had verified Yuan Zhou's craftsmanship personally. Nonetheless, the two people who came from nowhere made complaints ceaselessly from the moment they entered the restaurant till now. If not for the two people talking in a low voice and because the customers feared it would affect their mood, they really wanted to drive them away.

"Here's the Honey Tremella for you two." Zhou Jia carried two dishes courteously.

The tremella was placed in a dark green plate painted with branch-twined laces around the edges this time. The snowy white and lustrous tremella gave a beautiful contrast with the green plate.

"The appearance is barely acceptable. What do you think?" The talkative man turned his head and looked at his companion beside him.

"It's indeed barely acceptable." The person said straightforwardly.

"Let me see how the taste is like." The talkative man picked up a piece of tremella and stuffed it into his mouth.

The tremella emitted a crisp and tender sound of "Ca Ca" in his mouth, which was melodious and pleasing to the ears. However, the two people who ate at the same time still knitted their brows.

"Is that all?" This time, they said with one accord.

# Chapter 468: Ridicule Coming From Actual Strength

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"The taste is just a little bland and besides, slightly sweet after the honey is added. That's it." The other person that talked little knitted his brows and said straightforwardly.

"Can he even be regarded as a master by cooking that way?" That talkative person said with great puzzlement, not really understanding that.

"It's really a waste of our flight tickets. Judging from his actions in the video, however, he looks awesome." The other one knitted his brows tighter.

"Exactly. Internet rumors seem to be untrustworthy. The difference is much too distinct." The talkative person looked at Yuan Zhou discontentedly.

"Buy the flight ticket back home for me." The other one said decisively.

"No way. I treated you to the meal just now." The talkative customer answered.

Just like that, the two people commented about the Honey Tremella prepared by Yuan Zhou in turns, not caring that they were still in Yuan Zhou's restaurant now. They didn't intend to give Yuan Zhou any due respect.

"What's wrong with these two self-conceited guys?" Wu Hai stroked his small mustaches and said with a frown.

"I don't know. They are probably fools." Ling Hong snickered.

"You!" The talkative customer stared at Wu Hai discontentedly.

The other one that talked little was directly interrupted just when he was about to say something.

"No wonder you are still at Grade 4 at this old age. Don't ever tell others that you are chefs. I'm ashamed of having such disgraceful companions like you two." A male voice that sounded extremely proud said straightforwardly.

"Who's that?" The other one immediately turned his head and looked at the person.

The person was dressed in a shirt with black and white stripes, a thin overcoat, and light blue casual pants. There was a look of arrogance on his face.

"Chu Xiao." Yuan Zhou raise his head and brought out his name.

"He's truly as same as you." Wu Hai looked at Ling Hong and said to him jokingly.

"No. I'm more handsome than him." Ling Hong shrugged and started to watch the fun.

After the two people heard Yuan Zhou bring out that person's name, they became quite surprised. They didn't know much about Yuan Zhou, but knew whom Chu Xiao was. After all, Chu Xiao became well-known much earlier than Yuan Zhou and was a legendary figure.

"Two hopelessly stupid idiots. Didn't you ever temper yourself when you hold the kitchen knife during normal times? You'd better watch your words." Chu Xiao stared at the two people with his sharp eyes.

"This dish is indeed just ordinary. This is our conclusion." Seeing Chu Xiao, the talkative person contrarily dared to say nothing while the other one that talked little answered him.

"Ho Ho. Frankly speaking, you are absolutely unqualified to comment about this dish. It's an insult to pigs if I compare you with the pigs. Your brains are definitely not as heavy as that of a pig." Chu Xiao always looked down on others when he looked at them.

By saying that way, he appeared much more insolent and rude. Upon hearing that, the two chefs flushed instantly and became unhappy.

"Although we are only at Grade 4 right now, we have taken part in the Grade-3 exam and there will be results soon. So I think we are at least qualified to comment about a dish prepared by a chef that has no grade at all." The other customer that spoke little said with a resolute tone.

"Don't wait for the results anymore. You definitely can't pass it. Since you haven't mastered how to use your tongue, don't ever think of passing the exam." Chu Xiao said that freely as if he were saying something very common.

"A certificate means bullsh\*t. After all, people like you guys can even get a Grade-4 certificate." Chu Xiao's sarcasm was getting more and more severe.

"Even if you are a Michelin three-star chef, you can't say this to us, Master Chu." Instantly, the customer that talked little got infuriated and thus stared at Chu Xiao earnestly.

"Ho Ho. Of course I can. It is better for chefs that can't even distinguish the royal jelly to change their occupation." Chu Xiao looked at the two people seriously.

"You!" Then, the faces of the two people became almost the same. Both of them flushed with great anger caused by Chu Xiao.

The key point was that they had no way to contradict him. Because every single word of Chu Xiao was related to culinary skills. On that aspect, they truly didn't dare to say anything against Chu Xiao.

"The advantages of this dish are its simplicity and freshness. Although the ingredients used are simple, the taste is nevertheless elegant and sweet." Ignoring the two people that almost died of anger, Chu Xiao started to speak with fervor and assurance.



Just right in front of the Honey Tremella.

"The honey used is supposed to be the royal jelly of the wild-growing rock bees in Rock Bee Village. It's first rate and is fresh while the tremella used is the living tremella. The decocted royal jelly has a slight hint of jasmine and the taste of acerbity contained therein also decreases sharply."

"Well, yes. There's no astringency but much sourness. Do you keep it with a special method?" Although it was an interrogative sentence, Chu Xiao asked with a quite affirmative tone while looking at Yuan Zhou.

"Um." Yuan Zhou nodded his head.

"The tremella itself is bland and tasteless. The sour taste of the royal jelly and the slightly spicy underlying taste are a perfect match with the fragrance of the jasmine." Chu Xiao analyzed the advantages of this dish with only a few words.

"The fresh tremella and the nourishing royal jelly. Boss Yuan, you really are good." Chu Xiao took a look at the Honey Tremella on the curved long table in the end and then turned around and left.

As for the two people, he didn't say anything else to them. Presumably, no one could do better than Chu Xiao on the aspect of looking down upon others.

"Ta Ta Ta". Chu Xiao's footsteps faded away gradually. Not affected at all, Yuan Zhou just continued cooking the delicacies. He didn't lose his concentration except for when he was carrying the dishes to the customers.

The two people that came along together nevertheless became relieved. Only after they kept silent for quite a while did they snort coldly.

"What an officious guy!" The two people thought of that of one accord.

When they caught sight of the contemptuous gaze of the customers around and the Honey Tremella on the table, however, they immediately remembered the horror of being dominated by Chu Xiao just now, and of course, the chef Yuan Zhou that served a perfect-matching dish without saying anything.

"Let's leave." The person that spoke little said without turning his head around.

"I'm sorry, gentlemen. If you don't eat up the food on the table, you two will be blacklisted." Zhou Jia went up and said to them courteously.

"We'll never come to such a... place again." The talkative customer had originally wanted to say something unpleasant, but when he thought of his aching face being slapped just now, he immediately corrected himself. However, he still used a ferocious tone.

"Okay. Then take care, gentlemen." Zhou Jia made way for them and said politely.

"Humph." Only after the two people glared at Yuan Zhou angrily did they leave.

"Tsk-Tsk. No wonder the two of them are so weird. They turn out to be the competitors of Boss Yuan and came here to get his information," said a customer.

"Exactly. Now that Boss Yuan is getting more famous, such events will inevitably happen frequently." Another customer answered immediately.

"I'm just curious about the person who scolded them just now." This was a girl who valued a man's appearance and figure.

"He should be a chef, too. He appears fairly awesome and has an experienced eye at least." A slightly elder customer said with satisfaction.

"He's indeed a chef, specifically, a young Michelin three-star

chef." Ling Hong started to make introductions.

"Even a Michelin three-star chef admires Boss Yuan's culinary skills. One could imagine how handsome Boss Yuan is." The girl that had valued the appearance and figure just now immediately said excitedly.

However, wasn't what she admired supposed to be Yuan Zhou's craftsmanship? How does that have anything to do with the handsome appearance? Wu Hai thought of that with puzzlement.

"Yuan Zhou's craftsmanship is naturally the best, but that Chu Xiao is also not bad." Ling Hong said affirmatively.

"Boss Yuan is the best. He's so kind-hearted as to adopt Broth." Girls' focus their attention on many aspects.

"Chu Xiao is not bad." Yuan Zhou said that as he set down the dishes.

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# Chapter 469: Appearing and Disappearing Mysteriously

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After dinner time ended, Yuan Zhou looked at the entrance of this small restaurant and got lost in his thoughts.

"I never expected this guy to return home so soon. Why didn't I get a notification from Chairman Zhou?" Yuan Zhou muttered to himself.

"Luckily, I have almost levelled-up." Yuan Zhou tapped the mission open again and checked it.

Yuan Zhou was only thinking about the fact that there weren't many dishes suitable for a banquet, unlike the western cuisines that had separate dishes like appetizer, main course, and dessert. Therefore, Yuan Zhou was still slightly worried.

Fortunately, he had a complete set of western food etiquette available.

The area where Yuan Zhou's restaurant was seated was originally a high-technology zone of this city, where many tall buildings were scattered around. However, the supporting business circle was still in construction, so it inevitably appeared a little desolate.

Not to mention there was even an old residential area around Yuan Zhou's restaurant which made it seem old.

Since there was nothing worth visiting around there, the visitors were naturally less than average. It was the fast food restaurant further down the business street that had the most customers and provided meals for people working around. Since Yuan Zhou's restaurant was publicized throughout the city, however, the stores here became valuable. Many stores that provided foods, accessories enjoyed by girls, and services of drinking tea and chatting for men had been appearing.

Working in a foreign-funded enterprise right now, Ma Zhida was

a little worried.

"I haven't eaten Boss Yuan's dishes for quite a few days. How long shall we accompany that UAE prince?" Ma Zhida poked his colleague at the side and asked.

"As a single man, you just need to feed yourself and can at least go there for meals every few days. I haven't been there for almost two months." His colleague rolled his eyes to Ma Zhida and didn't intend to answer the last question.

"Is this the main point? I'm asking you when this wealthy manager will leave." Ma Zhidao asked earnestly.

"I don't know. We are the only males in the Public Relations Department." His colleague shrugged and appeared helpless.

That's right. Ma Zhida and this colleague were the only males in the Public Relations Department. According to their general manager, they were merely the green leaves in contrast with the females in the department. In spite of that, they still couldn't leave when there was work.

Recently, the parent company of the partner of their company sent a manager, an authentic Emiratis, here to inspect the business. Therefore, all staff working in the Public Relations Department accompanied him in turns.

Actually, he wasn't the legendary prince. The UAE Prince was only a joking appellation of the manager.

"Silika, you speak Chinese so fluently. What do you want to eat today?" The director of the Public Relations Department, a beauty with a beautiful body, was accompanying a man who was dressed in a business suit and had neat whiskers along with another middle-aged man.

The person that asked just now was naturally the director of the Public Relation Department, too. After all, only by asking this way could the beautiful women reveal their charm.

"I am sick of eating your dishes these few days and want to eat something from our nation today." Silika, the moneybags from UAE, said with a frown.

"I know a restaurant called Desert that serves dishes of UAE. Do you want to go and have a try?" The director said smilingly.

"No, no. There's no authentic UAE dish around here." Silika refused immediately.

Instantly, he remembered the roast meat he had eaten yesterday. It was said to be the authentic UAE taste, but actually tasted very bad.

"Then do you want to try the specialty dish here?" The beautiful director still suggested with a smile.

The manager beside her was only responsible for nodding his head.

"I know your Chinese dishes are delicious, but I just don't like that kind of taste." Silika shrugged and appeared quite helpless.

Once he said that, the several other people didn't know how to answer him. It was nevertheless Silika himself that started to talk.

"Sigh. It would be great even if it was only a pilaf." Silika sighed and then said.

"Do you want to eat rice?" Ma Zhida suddenly asked him.

"Yeah. Rice, the white rice." Silika said affirmatively.

"Do Emiratis also eat white rice?" Although Ma Zhida said with a very low voice, he was still heard by others.

"Of course. Different from the white rice produced here, the rice produced in our country is especially delicious when used to cook the pilaf." Silika said proudly.

"Can you eat it without meat?" Ma Zhida had a sudden inspiration and asked that.

"Of course, I can." Silika nodded his head.

"If you can eat pilaf without meat, I think there's a place that can absolutely serve you food that satisfies your UAE taste buds." Ma Zhida said positively.

"Are you sure?" This time, Silika directly said that in English.

"Yes, absolutely." Ma Zhida answered confidently.

"Then let's eat it tonight." Silika said happily.

Silika trusted Ma Zhida because he clearly understood the habits of the Chinese. Even if they were 100% sure, they only said 90% to others. Since Ma Zhida said that so affirmatively, his confidence had definitely surpassed 200%.

"Little Ma, are you sure?" The manager asked him for confirmation.

"I trust Little Ma." The director at the side looked at Ma Zhida earnestly and then nodded his head.

"Is it that place?" It was rare for Ma Zhida's colleague to understand his thoughts. They all thought of Yuan Zhou's restaurant at the same time.

"You are right." Ma Zhida nodded his head affirmatively.

"Okay. Little Ma, you lead the way. But you stay in the company." The manager said that while pointing at that colleague.

"Well, okay. Bye, manager. Bye Manager Silika." The colleague complained about the stingy manager inwardly and said goodbye to them, yet a smile on his face.

The several people all nodded and then the colleague left.

At that time, the manager said sensibly, "Silika, I don't think you'll feel comfortable if I eat together with you. So what about they take you there to eat?"

"Of course. Then thank you, beauty and this gentleman who is

leading the way for us." Silika nodded his head with a delighted expression.

"I hope you can eat the dish you want." The manager answered him smilingly.

"I will." Silika nodded his head.

The manager had some knowledge of the habits of the Emiratis. They didn't like negotiating business while having meals. He had been accompanying the client for the last two days and thus, the atmosphere wasn't that active during the meals. Therefore, the manager made his exit sensibly and gave the initiative to the young.

Besides, the director of the Public Relations Department was present, so he wasn't worried at all.

"Manager Silika, please follow me. That small restaurant isn't far from here. It is no more than 10 minutes on foot. If we drive, however, we have to look for a parking spot over there." Ma Zhida said smilingly.

"Then let's just walk over there." Silika accepted the good advice and said that.

"Follow me." Ma Zhida led the way ahead of them with a cordial smile.

Behind him, the beautiful director and Silika were chatting freely and occasionally introducing some favorable information about her company.

The three of them all headed for Yuan Zhou's restaurant. Meanwhile, a good play happened to be on at Yuan Zhou's restaurant.

Because Chu Xiao appeared again.

The cause was that two customers were discussing why Yuan Zhou could cook the Sautéed Vermicelli with Spicy Minced Pork so



well.

"Boss Yuan's craftsmanship is way too good. Having been picked with the chopsticks, it really looks like the ants climbing up on the tree. The Chinese vermicelli is chewy while the minced pork is elastic." A customer gulped down a mouthful of vermicelli with satisfaction.

"The most wonderful thing is that the Chinese vermicelli has absorbed abundant gravy and tastes super satisfying." The two people started to praise the dish one after another.

"If only I can cook this dish! I won't be sick of eating that all day long." The customer said with a delighted look.

"Don't even think about it in your lifetime. Even if you have the talent for being a chef, you'll need no less than three years to make it as delicious as this one. "Chu Xiao's arrogant voice appeared again.

He was always appearing and disappearing mysteriously...

# Chapter 470: Vegetarian Pilaf

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"You startled me." The customers were first startled before they had time to get angry with Chu Xiao's ridiculing face.

"Tsk. How timid!" Chu Xiao looked at the two people with a look of contempt.

"It's terrifying when you appear suddenly." The customers felt rather speechless and said that.

"The ingredients of this dish are really superb. There's no floury smell of the vermicelli made from bean starch at all. And when it's soaked in the water and becomes soft, the water will definitely be clear and bright without any floury substances at all." Having answered none of them, Chu Xiao started the analysis straightforwardly while staring at the two plates of Sautéed Vermicelli with Spicy Minced Pork.

"Needless to say, the minced meat is definitely chopped by hand and furthermore, chopped with the cutting blade rather than the back of a knife blade at a time. Yes. It's chopped at a time. Otherwise, it would not be so chewy." Chu Xiao analyzed the dish bit by bit.

"Huh... Why do I feel like he knows things better than we do even if he doesn't eat it?" A customer appeared quite astonished and felt that Chu Xiao's words made great sense.

"Exactly." Another customer also nodded continuously.

"He has excellent control over the flame and definitely adjusted the cooking temperature constantly while stir-frying. If not, this dish wouldn't be so perfect and well-distributed." Chu Xiao knitted his brows and said again after he took a look at Yuan Zhou.

Stared by Chu Xiao again and again, Yuan Zhou was doing his own work attentively.

"Inexplicable culinary skills!" After saying that, Chu Xiao turned

around and left without the slightest hesitation as if he hadn't been here at all.

That's right. In Chu Xiao's opinion, Yuan Zhou's culinary skills were indeed inexplicable. He neither learned it in any institution nor from any famous teacher. However, he was just so great!

"That totally does not make sense." It was what Chu Xiao wanted to say.

"Hey, hey. Why did he suddenly leave?" The customers looked at the back of Chu Xiao and became a little puzzled.

"That's the most inexplicable matter." Another customer also felt speechless about that and thus said.

"Is that guy here to amuse us?" Ling Hong couldn't help saying that, too.

"He probably came to steal Boss Yuan's craftsmanship." Wu Hai stroked his small mustaches and guessed randomly.

"Haw-haw, maybe." Other customers believed in that to some extent.

When Ma Zhida entered the restaurant with his two companions, they had just missed this fun.

"Manager Silika, here it is." Ma Zhida pointed at the three vacant seats and smiled.

"I hope the dishes here can be truly delicious. I have lined up outside for one hour." Silika shrugged.

"Don't worry. They definitely deserve the price." Ma Zhida said with full of confidence.

"I hope so." Silika was quite discontented with the one-hour wait.

"Hey, take it easy. Let's wait for Little Ma's arrangement." The director of the Public Relations Department comforted him with her soft voice.

"Yeah, watch me." Ma Zhida nodded and answered affirmatively.

"What do you want to eat?" Seeing the three people finished talking, Zhou Jia came up and inquired.

"A serving of Vegetarian Pilaf of 100 Styles of Rice Cuisine. I want it to have the UAE taste." Ma Zhida directly started to order dishes.

"Okay." Zhou Jia nodded and answered.

"I want a serving of Egg Fried Rice." The director glanced at the prices and ordered conservatively.

"I want a set meal of Egg Fried Rice." Ma Zhida ordered a same dish. As for Silika, he just listened to them silently.

"Okay. Wait a moment, please." Zhou Jia waited for the payment after she said that.

Ma Zhida was a regular customer and he naturally knew Yuan Zhou's rule of dishes being served after payment. Therefore, he made the payment via bank transfer.

Of course, the company would reimburse him the expenses for the meal.

After the payment, they started to wait for the dishes. Ma Zhida was quite delighted right now. Having been absent from here for quite a few days, he missed the dishes here very much. By means of this opportunity, he could seek personal gains to eat here. Nonetheless, he brought them here because he believed that Yuan Zhou could satisfy the requirements of Silika.

When Yuan Zhou received the order sheet and glanced at it. After recalling for a moment the cooking method of the Vegetarian Pilaf, he verified that it was really one of the 100 Styles of Rice Cuisine. Then, he started to prepare the dish.

As for the requirements on the order sheet, Yuan Zhou naturally saw them clearly. He specially took out a complete set of new kitchenware and even the sieve for placing the rice in was new.

Most Emiratis are Muslim and believe in Islam. And their diets are in accordance with the rules of the Koran.

They don't eat pig, horse, mule, donkey, dog, snake, turkey, meat of natural death, fishes that live on the surface of the water and the blood of all animals as well as the ferocious birds and animals such as tiger, wolf, lion, leopard, bear, elephant, monkey, eagle and harrier, etc. Besides that, they are forbidden to smoke opium and drink wine and so on.

Therefore, Yuan Zhou changed a completely new set of new kitchenware.

The rice grains used for the pilaf are usually long. Naturally, Yuan Zhou wouldn't make an exception.

After a sound of "Peng", he opened the newly appeared rice cabinet, inside of which was the Zengcheng Simiao Rice required by Yuan Zhou.

He scooped up the rice with the new porcelain bowl. The rice grains appeared beautiful and artistic in the white bowl. They were in long grain shape, spotless white and translucent; the rice grains glowed and gave people a vitreous feeling. Even before it was boiled, the faint fragrance passed into his nose.

"If things continue this way, I think I can collect all the tribute rice. I'm just not sure if I can summon a dragon with all of them." Looking at the row of rice cabinets, Yuan Zhou couldn't help ridiculing in the heart.

The system displayed, "No."

"I don't expect the dragon to appear. What about the reward?" On seeing the system's answer, Yuan Zhou asked unconsciously.

The system displayed, "Please work harder to get more rewards."

"As expected." Yuan Zhou was speechless.

After he grumbled at the system as usual, Yuan Zhou focused on

the pilaf.

Zengcheng Simiao Rice had always been known as the King of Chinese Rice and enjoyed equal popularity with Zengcheng Lvqua Lychee. Due to the spotless white and translucent rice grains and rich oiliness as well as the strong fragrance, soft texture and calm taste after cooking, the rice was quite famous around the area to the south of the Five Ridges and was even well-known abroad.

Of course, there was also a legend concerning the rice. According to the legend, there were two celestial being wandering in the air above Baishuizhai when they suddenly encountered a purple cloud rising. Seeing the beautiful hills and waters, they felt it must be a treasured land below the purple cloud. Therefore, they stopped at the Baishuizhai and built a monastery there, planting some rice grains on the bench terrace. That was the origin of the Zengcheng Simiao Rice.

While Yuan Zhou was playing symphonic music with the kitchenware, the discontented look on the face of the detailed person, Silika, diminished a lot.

"It's fairly good here." Silika complimented.

"Of course. You'll feel the dishes are better than good after you eat it." Ma Zhida said confidently.

"No, no, no. I mean this chef is very good." Silika pointed at Yuan Zhou and said.

"Of course Boss Yuan is good." Ma Zhida squared his shoulders proudly as if Silika were praising him rather than Yuan Zhou.

"I think Manager Silika must have noticed this chef changed new kitchenware while cooking the dishes for him. Am I right?" The beautiful director said as if she had known about that.

"You are right. Although I'm not Islam, I don't like those messy tastes." Silika nodded and said smilingly.

"Don't worry. When you eat the dish, you'll like him more." On

hearing that, Ma Zhida didn't really feel anything special, but just said confidently.

In Ma Zhida's opinion, Yuan Zhou was able to take all these details into consideration, even if no one specifically reminded him.

Currently, all customers in Yuan Zhou's restaurant had that kind of confidence in him. The taste of the food and the details were both perfect. That was just the impression that Yuan Zhou left on his customers.

"Haha. I will taste it carefully." Silika said that.

Although he appreciated Yuan Zhou's earnest and seriousness, he really doubted if he could cook the pilaf into that particular UAE taste.

Only in local places could people eat foods of local taste, just like one can only eat authentic Chinese dishes in China. Even if you went to the Chinatown in foreign countries, the foods weren't that authentic.

Therefore, Silika wasn't hopeful about that.

# Chapter 471: Sense of Pride

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With various spices inside, the authentic fried rice with the UAE taste was unique. Normally, the Chinese wouldn't feel comfortable eating that.

Just because of that, many restaurants either abandoned those unfamiliar spices directly or added a few ones that suited the local people's taste. That was why Silika didn't feel comfortable eating them.

It was as uncomfortable as the people from the Sichuan Province eating fake Spicy Hotpot and people from Hu'nan Province eating the fake Small Spiced Lobster.

Therefore, Silika wasn't in a good mood these few days. It was also the reason why a simple Vegetarian Pilaf could make him satisfied.

Luckily, Yuan Zhou cooked very quickly. Even if the rice was braised for a short while, he quickly made it.

"Here are the dishes for the three of you." Zhou Jia carried the dishes to them.

"Thank you." The three of them thanked her at the same time.

"Please enjoy your meal." Zhou Jia said that courteously and then went to carry other dishes.

"Oh. There isn't the slightest fragrance?" Silika knitted his brows and felt a little disappointed.

"Manager, don't feel disappointed so quickly. You'll understand after you eat some." Ma Zhida hinted to him with a smile.

"Yeah, he's right. Eat some and you might be able to find a surprise." The director felt like she was riding a tiger and could not get off easily, because she also found there was no fragrance from the rice.



Even those unauthentic Vegetarian Pilaf served in other restaurants had at least some taste of spices. Here in this restaurant, however, there were none. That was sufficient reason enough to explain that. Nevertheless, it wasn't a good time to give up the hope.

"Alright. Judging from the color, it looks good." Silika shrugged but had totally given up the hope inwardly.

The rice was placed in an ordinary black porcelain pot. The long pale brown rice grains were well-separated. In the center of the rice, there was even something like raisins, sesame seed and peanuts.

"Please taste it now." Ma Zhida said to him again.

"Okay, alright. I will." After a nod, Silika took the spoon and started to eat.

He scooped up the rice and stuffed it into his mouth directly without even looking at it.

"Um?" Silika raise his eyebrows in surprise.

Once the rice was stuffed into his mouth, a strong taste of spices rushed straight into his throat. It was exactly the UAE taste that Silika was familiar with.

Following that was the softness and chewiness of the rice. While being chewed, it tasted like gelatin.

A strong taste along with a little bit spiciness and pungency suffused his mouth at the beginning, then came the fragrance of the rice that could not be neglected, which made the pungency more distinct.

"Ka Ka", Silika bit the peanuts into pieces. Then, the characteristic fragrance of the peanuts rushed out immediately and right after that was the sour and sweet taste of the raisins.

The raisins were definitely the top-grade goods. They tasted soft

and tender with some unnoticeable grape juice but also had the peculiar taste of gelatin at the same time.

"It's way too delicious." Silika swallowed up a mouthful of fried rice and a shine immediately appeared in his eyes as he said loudly.

"Why is there such an authentic pilaf in China?!"

"This chef has absolutely been to the Middle East, or else, he's from the Middle East!" Silika made the judgement resolutely.

"Boss Yuan is a Chinese. I don't know if he's ever been to the Middle East before." Ma Zhida explained.

Silika felt it unbelievable, "How could there be such an authentic taste?"

"Manager Silika, it's great as long as you are satisfied." There appeared a complacent and proud expression on Ma Zhida's smiling face.

"Oh, definitely. I'm more than satisfied. The taste is really wonderful, even better than most chefs in the Middle East." Silika said sincerely.

"Little Ma's recommendation is fairly nice." The director felt it was a wise decision on insisting him to eat just now.

It was the very first time that Silika had revealed a satisfactory smile while eating.

"Okay, let's stop talking. It won't be so good when it gets cold later." Silika wasn't in the mood for talking at all. He started to eat once he lowered his head.

"Director, shall we eat now?" Ma Zhida said to the beautiful director proudly.

"Sure. Perhaps, this dish is also fantastic." The director pointed at the food in front of her and said with a big smile.

"Of course it's delicious." Ma Zhida nodded his head affirmatively.

"Hey, don't talk. Concentrate on eating." Silika raised his head and looked at the two chatting people discontentedly.

"Okay, alright." The director immediately answered smilingly.

Seeing the two people eat silently, Silika nodded his head with satisfaction and continued enjoying his delicacies.

"There wasn't any fragrance when it was served at the beginning, but now it's so tasty. Miraculous!" While eating, Silika was still talking and sighed with emotion.

Then, he gulped down another big mouthful of the fried rice.

While he was chewing, Silika was enjoying the various stimulating tastes released in his mouth from the fried rice.

"It's absolutely delicious." Silika signed with emotion.

Like always, Yuan Zhou's fried rice was only enough for one to be 80% full. Besides, one would feel that the portion was even smaller when eating something delicious.

Therefore, the rice was already all eaten when Silika felt that the meal just started.

Looking at the empty black pot, Silika was a little muddled.

"Did I eat it up so quickly?" Silika said unbelievably.

"Yes, sir." Ma Zhida nodded his head with a quite earnest expression.

In his heart, however, he was laughing at him, "Hey Hey. So now you can see how great Boss Yuan's craftsmanship and rules are!"

"Miss, please get me another serving of fried rice." Silika said to Zhou Jia standing at the side after he came out of his daze.

"Sir, I'm sorry. But according to the rules of our restaurant, one can only order one dish of the same type every time." Zhou Jia went up and explained carefully.

"What?" Silika felt that his Chinese was too poor to understand

that.

"I mean you can't order what you have just eaten again." Zhou Jia explained frankly.

"Hey, I don't understand. I need the fried rice ordered just now, the delicious fried rice." Silika pointed at the empty bowl in front of him and said seriously.

What the foodies could do for delicious food was far beyond imagination, let alone Silika hadn't eaten a satisfying meal for quite a few days. This delicacy suited his taste and tasted even better than those served in Michelin Three Star Restaurants in his own country. He rarely came across such a tasty dish and once it was available right in front of him, how could he keep calm?

Not to mention that he only waited for one hour before he managed to eat such a delicacy. It was his decency that stopped him from leaping and dancing.

So it was quite easy to pretend that he couldn't understand Zhou Jia.

"Mr. Ma, can you please explain to them?" Zhou Jia smiled and said to Ma Zhida.

"Alright." Ma Zhida shrugged and answered. Just when he prepared to explain, however, the director suddenly said ahead of him.

"Little girl, that man is your boss, isn't he? Please trouble him to come here." The director said to Zhou Jia.

"Yes, that's my boss. But a rule is a rule. My boss won't agree with you." Zhou Jia nodded her head and then said resolutely.

"Not necessarily. I'd like to offer ten times the marked price and order one more serving." The director said with an exceptionally good-looking expression.

"Ma'am, someone offered one hundred times the marked price

last time, but he still didn't make it. After all, Boss Yuan's nickname is Compass." Zhou Jia grinned and said.

"Compass is the kind of person that won't make even a 1cm mistake." Zhou Jia continued saying.

"Director, don't bother doing that. I got an idea." Ma Zhida immediately stopped the beautiful director from speaking.

That's right. The beautiful director was prepared to call Yuan Zhou directly. After all, Silika came for inspection on behalf of the parent company. She was unable to endure that this important person couldn't even eat his fill of fried rice.

"Hey. Say it immediately if you have any ideas." Silika looked at Ma Zhida eagerly.

"Actually, it's very simple." Ma Zhida smiled with a look of certainty and then said to Zhou Jia while looking at her.

"This beautiful woman and I want a Vegetarian Pilaf each."

## Chapter 472: Are You Going To Eat?

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"Okay." Zhou Jia smiled faintly and then nodded.

"The money has been paid to you via bank transfer." Ma Zhida took his phone up and showed to her.

"Okay. Wait a moment, please." Zhou Jia nodded and left after she confirmed receipt of the payment.

"Manager Silika, just wait for a few minutes to eat it." Ma Zhida said smilingly.

"Ma, you are so smart." Silika first looked at Zhou Jia nervously. Seeing her nod, he revealed a surprised look and then sighed with emotion.

"By the way, is one serving enough for you?" Ma Zhida thought of the two servings of Vegetarian Pilaf and asked tentatively.

After all, no one would feel Yuan Zhou's dish were more than enough. He just asked that casually.

"Hey. Aren't the two servings all for me?" Silika said as if it were obvious.

"Of course. As long as you like it, Silika." The beautiful director immediately gave a mean look at Ma Zhida and then said to Silika smilingly.

On hearing the director's answer, Silika smiled with satisfaction.

"Little beauty, please carry both servings of pilaf to me, please." Silika likewise didn't forget to remind Zhou Jia.

While speaking of that, even the whiskers on his face were releasing hormones.

"What do you think, Mr. Ma?" Zhou Jia knew Ma Zhida. So she gave a smiling look when she asked him.

"Okay. All for him." Stared at by the beautiful director with a

threatening look, Ma Zhida had to nod his head reluctantly.

"Hey, little beauty. You won't make mistakes as long as you do as I say." Silika faced Zhou Jia and said to her earnestly.

"Okay. One moment, please. I will send them to you later." Zhou Jia nodded smilingly.

"That's my good girl." Silika nodded his head very happily.

On hearing that, Zhou Jia slightly blushed. She could do nothing but just continue being busy.

"It turns out that bearded men are all good at dealing with girls." Yuan Zhou happened to catch sight of that when he carried the dishes to them and then murmured in the heart.

Just as expected, Silika got another two servings of the Vegetarian Pilaf. The big beard across his whole face couldn't even block his smile.

"It's way too tasty. I've never expected there's such authentic pilaf over here. Nice." Silika praised the dishes from time to time while eating.

Then, the beautiful director became satisfied and even Ma Zhida felt proud of that. It was him who introduced them here. Boss Yuan's craftsmanship really never let people down.

"I want food." Wu Hai said to Zhou Jia feebly after he entered the restaurant.

"Mr. Wu, what's wrong with you?" Zhou Jia asked curiously.

"Sigh. I want to eat now. One serving of Egg Fried Rice and one serving of plain white rice of 100 Styles of Rice Cuisine." Wu Hai sighed first with a low voice and then ordered his dishes.

"Okay. What's the matter with you?" Zhou Jia still asked with a caring tone.

Zhou Jia wasn't actually a meddlesome person. After all, the person who had always rushed here more quickly than others only

came today in the third round. It was unreasonable and besides, he wasn't in a good mood. Under such circumstances, Zhou Jia would surely express concern for him.

She was asking on behalf of Yuan Zhou.

"Needless to say, he appeared that way because of Yuan Zhou." Ling Hong smiled complacently at the side.

"Because of my boss?" Zhou Jia revealed a puzzled look.

"Just leave him alone. Report the dishes to me." Yuan Zhou raised his head and said lightly.

"Sigh. I want a pot of Spicy Hotpot Soup." Wu Hai sighed again and still didn't forget to add one more dish.

"Okay. One moment, please." Zhou Jia went to report the order to Yuan Zhou with puzzlement.

"Don't be so disappointed. It doesn't matter if you failed in achieving your goal. You can try harder next time." Ling Hong gloated about Wu Hai's misfortune.

"You don't understand." It was a rare event for Wu Hai not to fight with Ling Hong this time.

"Cough-cough. Actually, the name 'Elongated Steamed Buns' is fairly nice. Others don't even know how to make it even if they want to." Ling Hong coughed to cover his gloat. Then, he held back the laughter and said to him.

That's right. The reason why Wu Hai became upset was that the Mandarin duck cake cooked by him was mistaken as steamed buns, more specifically, an elongated steamed bun, by Yuan Zhou.

Of course, the most important thing was that he also forgot to let Yuan Zhou bring him to buy vegetables.

Setting aside the fact that the cake became a steamed bun, the key point was that he didn't bring out his main purpose. Therefore, all his sighs were eventually for himself.



"You can continue eating the Rice Served in Soup. I tried it once and the taste is really nice." Speaking of the taste, Ling Hong revealed a look of satisfaction.

"Of course." Wu Hai rolled his eyes at Ling Hong angrily.

"In my opinion, you should be content enough. After all, Boss Yuan didn't play tricks on you." Ling Hong thought of the poor Su Mu.

From the bottom of his heart, he thought he could make it, but in the end, he was instilled with too much knowledge about buying vegetables. The problem was that he couldn't even distinguish between the Chinese chives and rice seedlings. However much knowledge he learned, he couldn't buy them successfully.

For example, Yuan Zhou told him, "If you want to buy navel oranges, you should choose those that are bright in color, mellow in fragrance, elastic on the surface and have the small circle below concave. Only such navel oranges are fresh and sweet."

Su Mu appeared muddled, "Navel oranges? Aren't they all called oranges?"

That's right. Su Mu couldn't even tell the differences of sweet oranges, navel oranges and other oranges. How could he buy them successfully?

"I did not play tricks. That was an equivalent exchange." Yuan Zhou corrected them seriously.

"Haw-haw-haw. Yeah, yeah. Equivalent exchange." Ling Hong couldn't help but smile.

"Ho Ho." Wu Hai got down on the table and refused to talk to Ling Hong.

Not until when Zhou Jia carried Wu Hai's dishes to him did Wu Hai raise his head, take the chopsticks, and start to eat.

The first dish he started to eat was naturally the plain white rice

served in the spicy soup.

"He surprisingly only sells the hotpot soup!" Chu Xiao that always appeared and disappeared mysteriously showed up again.

Actually, he had been here for about one minute, but just stayed silent. Not until when the hotpot soup was carried onto the table and Wu Hai started to eat did he talk.

"Yes." Yuan Zhou nodded his head.

It was only when he saw that did Chu Xiao look at Wu Hai's bowl again.

The translucent rice grains were covered with a layer of reddish soup. The hot spicy soup stimulated the unique delicate fragrance of rice while the spicy taste rushed into people's nose, unwilling to lag behind.

"Rice Served in Soup without any spices. The chili seeds are removed from the chilies used, but its unique fragrance is nevertheless retained." Chu Xiao stared at that bowl of Rice Served in Soup with his keen and sparkling eyes.

"Zi." Wu Hai protected his food habitually by pulling the bowl back toward himself.

"The fragrance turns out to come from the chili seeds rather than the sesame seeds. So you used the chili seeds to replace the sesame seeds?" Chu Xiao looked at Yuan Zhou seriously.

"You are right." Yuan Zhou nodded his head again.

"You added the chili seeds into the flavorings when you stir-fried them and then picked the seeds out separately after that?" Chu Xiao was a little unsure.

How big could the chili seeds be like? Picking them out from the abundant flavorings was like the stepmother of Cinderella asking her to pick out the beans from the ash dump. It's simply baffling to others.

"No, it's even more difficult than that." Chu Xiao said affirmatively.

Seeing Chu Xiao stare at Wu Hai's bowl without even blinking, however, Yuan Zhou asked habitually, "Are you going to eat?"

"No, I won't eat now." Chu Xiao refused him blankly and then turned around and left directly.

"What a weird person!" Ling Hong commented.

"It is lucky that he doesn't want to eat now." Wu Hai felt lucky about that.

"He might want to compete against you?" Master Cheng said with uncertainty.

"I don't think so." Yuan Zhou shook his head.

"Then what's the matter?" Ling Hong asked curiously.

"It is probably because the time for him to eat isn't here yet." Yuan Zhou knitted his brows and said that.

# Chapter 473: Ways of Communication Between Lovers

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There were a variety of customers that went to Yuan Zhou's restaurant. Not only were there various customers who ate there, but also people who only watched but never took a bite.

For example, Master Cheng that was allowed by Yuan Zhou to watch, the white-collar that made a detour here but never ate there and the weird man that was once asked by Wu Hai and answered that he only just wanted to look about.

Recently, there were also other onlookers such as Chu Xiao and those who only watched the sergestes silently or only attentively watching Yuan Zhou cook dishes.

Yang Da happened to be the kind of person that only attentively watched Yuan Zhou cook dishes.

He started to work at 7:00 a.m. and got off work at 12:00 p.m. With the lunch break of one hour, he worked until 12:00 a.m. before he got off work again. Of course, he had only half an hour in the evening for dinner. His work was to run errands for others. He stayed outside all day long because there was more work during the dinner time.

He helped other to buy things and send articles. The work was hard, but didn't pay well. He started the business together with others. In this business, he was in charge of running errands while his partner only offered the capital.

He came to Yuan Zhou's restaurant every day during the two-hour lunchtime just to watch Yuan Zhou cook quite earnestly, merely looking at Yuan Zhou's work which included the plate presentation.

Since he spent the two hours in Yuan Zhou's restaurant, he could only eat some dry rations to settle his stomach on the way back.

The night was pitch black.

"Ta Ta Ta." Yang Da dragged his exhausted body and returned to his rented home.

"You are finally back. I prepared the Pig Backbone Soup for you to drink. It's still warm." A melodious female voice sounded when Yang Da opened the door.

Immediately, a smile appeared on Yang Da's exhausted face. Then, he said with a slightly blaming tone, "It is 1 o'clock already. Little Ruo, you should go to sleep. You don't need to wait for me."

"Cheh. If I don't wait for you, perhaps we wouldn't see each other for a week." The girl called Little Ruo mischievously stuck out her tongue and said that.

"Okay. I'm going to drink the soup and as for you, go sleep now." Yang Da reached out his hand and stroked his girlfriend's face.

"Okay, no problem. I will go to sleep after you drink up the soup." Little Ruo nodded her head obediently.

They rented and lived in a one bedroom and one living room apartment. There was also a separated bathroom and a small kitchen. Although it wasn't big, it was a fully-equipped home.

"I heard from my colleagues that Boss Yuan served the Honey Tremella worth 1 RMB yesterday. If I had known that earlier, we should have also gone to line up." Little Ruo said.

"There will be an opportunity soon." Yang Da said earnestly as his action of drinking the soup paused for a little while.

"Hey. I don't mean I want to eat it, but just feel it was a pity. You can't go there to eat. We still have to save money." Little Ruo took Yang Da's arm and said that. She acted as if she had guessed something.

"I know. I won't do that. All my money is given to you, isn't it?" Yang Da put the bowl down and then took his girlfriend's hand.

"Humph. Good." Little Ruo pouted playfully.

"Alright. Go to sleep now. I'm going to wash up." Yang Da kissed his girlfriend's face.

"Okay. Got it. You also go to sleep hurriedly. Don't be too tired. My salary will rise by 100 RMB from next month on. Let's work hard together. Don't put too much pressure on yourself." Little Ruo said these kinds of words to Yang Da almost every day.

It was because Yang Da was too tired and she felt sorry about that.

It went so far that she didn't even dare to say that she wanted to go to Yuan Zhou's restaurant for a meal.

However, Yang Da bore that in mind and went to Yuan Zhou's restaurant every day.

"All right. You are the boss." Yang Da answered smilingly.

"Ok. By the way, let's eat lunch together tomorrow, shall we? I see you have an appointment around my company." Little Ruo thought of the appointment that came through text message and said with a smile.

"No problem." Yang Da answered immediately without any reluctance.

After all, he can't let Little Ruo know about the matter that he went to Yuan Zhou's restaurant every day.

"See you at noon tomorrow." After she said that, Little Ruo went to bed.

At 6:00 the next morning, Little Ruo left home for work first and Yang Da likewise left for work at 7:00.

Not until 12:00 at noon did the two lovers meet downstairs of Little Ruo's eSports Company.

"Boss, get me a bowl of Pea Sauced Noodles. What do want to eat, Little Ruo?" Yang Da turned his head and asked.

"Flammable Noodles. I want to try this one." Little Ruo looked at the menu and said that.

Yang Da nodded and then said to the cashier, "100g of Pea Sauced Noodles and 50g of Flammable Noodles. Hurry up, please."

"Okay. Sit here for a few minutes. The noodles will be served very soon." In this small noodle restaurant, the cashier also worked as the waiter. After he received the payment, he brought them to sit down.

It was inevitably boring to sit there and kept waiting. Therefore, Yang Da took out his phone and prepared to snatch a moment of leisure.

"Is it enough for you to eat only 100g of the noodles? If it's not enough, add some more noodles later." Little Ruo said with a caring tone.

"No need. It's enough for me." Yang Da took the phone in his hand and said without even raising his eyes.

"What about adding an egg for you?" Little Ruo frowned and continued asking.

"No need." Yang Da's eyes still didn't leave the phone mobile screen.

Then, Little Ruo got a little angry. However, she didn't lose temper immediately, but just snorted lightly. Seeing Yang Da still looking at his own phone attentively, she also took out her phone.

They originally had only a little time together. Just because Little Ruo wanted to spend some time with Yang Da, she invited him to come for lunch. After he got seated, however, he just concentrated on playing with his phone. Even when she asked him something, he only answered perfunctorily.

Upon seeing that, Little Ruo became very angry, but she still didn't say anything. Instead, she also took out her own phone from her pocket and started to chat with others.

In an instant, they fell silent.

"Here are the noodles for you two." Only when the waiter carried the two bowls of noodles to them was the silence broken.

"Little Ruo, let's eat now." Yang Da took out the chopsticks for Little Ruo and urged her.

"Um. I'll eat right away." Little Ruo nodded her head.

"Slurp Slurp". Yang Da lowered his head and ate some noodles. When he looked at his girlfriend, she was still playing with her phone.

Instantly, he became a little unhappy and then said, "Eat quickly. The noodles won't taste good when it's cold later. Is there really so much fun in the phone?"

"Okay." After Little Ruo answered, she took the phone with one hand and took the chopsticks with the other and then ate like that.

"What are you looking at?" Yang Da craned his neck and then found his girlfriend was chatting with her colleague. Then, he got helpless.

When Yang Da ate halfway and saw Little Ruo still not intend to put down her phone, he also took his phone.

He tapped open the conversation interface and found the name of Ruoyou Sunny Day and then started to type.

[Don't play with the phone while eating.] from Everything Going Smoothly.

Immediately, Little Ruo caught sight of the message from Yang Da and replied him directly with a smile.

[But the man sitting opposite to me was also playing with his phone.] from Ruoyou Sunny Day.

Yang Da smiled helplessly and began to reply her.

[But he's looking at you whole-heartedly right now.] from



Everything Going Smoothly.

There appeared a smile on Little Ruo's face. Nonetheless, she didn't change her position and continued replying him.

[Really?] from Ruoyou Sunny Day.

[Yeah, 100% sure. Please look at my sincere eyes.] from Everything Going Smoothly.

After sending this message, Yang Da immediately raised his head and looked at Little Ruo with the keen and sparkling eyes.

"Alright. Let's eat the noodles." Little Ruo put down the phone smilingly and said.

"I finished. Let me accompany you upstairs." Yang Da ate up the last gulp of noodles and said.

"Okay. Take care while riding the bike and don't run the red light." Little Ruo nodded her head and instructed him carefully.

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## Chapter 474: Chu Xiao's Seriousness

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After the meal, Yang Da sent Little Ruo back to her company directly. When he came downstairs, he checked the time.

"There are only 20 minutes left. I can arrive there in 5 minutes and stay there for about 15 minutes." Yang Da looked at his phone and murmured to himself.

Quickly, he hurried to Yuan Zhou's restaurant.

As he was riding an electric bike, he didn't need to worry about the problem of parking.

The cars were all parked along the main street outside and only electric bikes or bicycles could get on the side street. Therefore, Yang Da got down the bike and locked it very quickly.

Once he arrived at the door, Yang Da slipped into Yuan Zhou's restaurant swiftly.

"I forgot to line up." Yang Da patted on his head and immediately walked out to the end of the line silently before he was driven out by others.

That's right. Everybody had to line up before they entered the restaurant. Otherwise, Yuan Zhou's restaurant would surely be heavily crowded.

It was lucky that Yang Da was a smart person. He had already reserved a number in case such emergencies happened.

Of course, he made good use of the reservation function of the queuing machine.

He can reserve a number for lunchtime on the following day. That way, he can enter Yuan Zhou's restaurant every day to watch Yuan Zhou's craftsmanship carefully.

As soon as he entered the restaurant, Master Cheng smiled and said to Yuan Zhou, "Look! That young man came again to watch

you."

"Um." Yuan Zhou nodded, indicating he heard that.

"I think he definitely came again to steal your craftsmanship and then goes back to run his own business." When Master Cheng said that, he appeared to think otherwise.

"No." Yuan Zhou shook his head.

"Why?" Master Cheng asked with puzzlement.

"The people who came last time and before that time as well as the man yesterday and this person all have different concerns." Yuan Zhou said lightly.

"Really?" Master Cheng was a little puzzled.

In his opinion, all the several people had started fixedly at Yuan Zhou's cooking and carrying dishes as well as things like plate presentation and appearance of the dishes. Apparently, they were all looking at Yuan Zhou that way. How could Yuan Zhou say they had different concerns?

"Observational ability is also very important. You watch carefully." Yuan Zhou looked at Master Cheng and said that.

"Okay. Thank you for reminding." Master Cheng lowered his head and thanked him seriously.

"Um." Yuan Zhou nodded.

Yuan Zhou appeared to be more and more like a grandmaster, he just lacked the craftsmanship a grand master should have.

"It seems that I have to level up as soon as possible." Yuan Zhou knitted his brows and said inwardly.

After that, Master Cheng started to watch Yang Da earnestly and began to practice his observational ability mentioned by Yuan Zhou.

On the other hand, Yang Da started to stare at Yuan Zhou from

the very beginning.

Having been reminded by Yuan Zhou, Master Cheng found something that he didn't notice during normal times when he looked at Yang Da.

"This young man is only interested in certain dishes." Master Cheng muttered to himself.

"Besides, he doesn't seem to be stealing craftsmanship. Instead, he's more interested in the plate presentation." Master Cheng stroked his own head and was slightly puzzled.

"Yeah, right. So he's not here to learn the culinary skills." When Yuan Zhou turned around and heard Master Cheng's words, he answered directly.

"Then what does he come every day for?" Master Cheng asked conveniently.

"Observe carefully and find the answer by yourself." Yuan Zhou said with an extraordinarily solemn and posturing look.

"Okay. Let me observe it by myself." Seeing Yuan Zhou become serious, Master Cheng also appeared that way and answered earnestly.

"Um." Yuan Zhou nodded and then went back to his own position to continue making the dishes.

"Boss Yuan, a serving of Steamed Tofu with Minced Pork for me, please." The voices ordering dishes were an endless stream.

Having been used to that, Zhou Jia took notes one after another unhurriedly and then reported all to Yuan Zhou.

"A serving of Steamed Tofu with Minced Pork and a serving of Plain White Rice." Zhou Jia reported the names of the dishes to Yuan Zhou.

"Okay." Yuan Zhou nodded.

He took out the whole piece of tofu prepared in the morning and

directly cut one square piece off with the knife.

"Zi". There passed the sound of the knife touching the bamboo board. After that, the tofu was directly thrown into the clean water at the side along with Yuan Zhou's actions and stirred slightly with the crystal rod.

Only when he was sure that every surface of the tofu was thoroughly washed did Yuan Zhou pick up the tofu quickly and easily with the bamboo knife with wide back.

"Pa". The piece of tofu fell down on the chopping board and emitted slightly sound.

"Shua Shua". With a few more cuts, Yuan Zhou separated the tofu into small cubes of identical size.

He moved the originally neat tofu with the kitchen knife from the chopping board into the pan. At that time, the temperature of the oil in the pan was just right.

There came the drastic sound of "Pa Pa" when the soft and tender tofu came in contact with the boiling hot oil.

Yuan Zhou adjusted the flame with one hand and took the pan to adjust the angles with the other in order to ensure every piece of the tofu was fully pan-fried until they all became dry and yellowish.

In order to prevent the tofu from sticking to the pan, Yuan Zhou carefully observed the flame and adjusted the positions of the pan from time to time.

While cooking, Yuan Zhou's expression was always quite attentive.

The cooking of the Steamed Tofu with Minced Pork had been mastered by Yuan Zhou and didn't require him to strictly follow the system's cooking instructions. Instead, he cooked as naturally as the floating clouds and flowing water. Therefore, Yuan Zhou appeared more and more handsome while cooking.

Just in a little while, this dish was done and placed on the curved long table directly, waiting to be carried to the customers.

At that time, Chu Xiao that came from nowhere suddenly stopped Yuan Zhou.

"The pan you are using is really very good." Chu Xiao said with an affirmative tone.

"Of course." Yuan Zhou nodded deservedly.

"Why?" Chu Xiao looked at Yuan Zhou and asked him.

"Everything here in my restaurant is the best." Yuan Zhou was full of confidence when he said that.

After all, everything provided by the system must be the best one.

"No, that's not the answer I want. Why are you not using the non-stick pan for that dish?" Chu Xiao gestured toward the dish of Steamed Tofu with Minced Pork that had been carried away.

Every word of Chu Xiao contained suspicion, but his tone sounded quite normal.

The dialogue between Chu Xiao and Yuan Zhou appeared quite normal in the customers' opinion.

After all, Chu Xiao had always been elusive recently and asked something or would explain some dishes occasionally.

Although it was a little strange, they likewise understood that well when they knew later that Chu Xiao was a quite awesome chef.

Therefore, the customers were watching the conversation between the two people.

"It's more convenient if it's not sticky." Chu Xiao emphasized.

That's right. When Chu Xiao looked at the pan, he felt it quite strange. If Yuan Zhou used the non-stick pan to pan-fry the tofu, it

would save much time. Because of the frying pan, the tofu could be very smooth in the pan without any special consideration.

"Do you use a non-stick pan?" Yuan Zhou asked him back.

"Of course." Chu Xiao nodded his head without hesitation.

"Are dishes cooked with this pan more delicious than those cooked with the non-stick pan?" There was some puzzlement in Chu Xiao's tone this time along with the usual arrogance on his face.

"No. I just feel it requires more attention this way." Yuan Zhou said lightly.

"I feel the non-stick pan also requires a lot of attention." Chu Xiao looked at Yuan Zhou and said earnestly.

"Do you really think so?" Yuan Zhou asked.

Chu Xiao answered blankly, "Sure."

"Okay. That's also very good." Yuan Zhou nodded his head. Then he turned around back to the kitchen and continued cooking.

"That's also good?" Chu Xiao became stupefied. He had thought that Yuan Zhou would argue with him. That way, he had one thousand decent reasons to explain that the non-stick pan had the same effect with the iron pan used by Yuan Zhou and besides, it was more convenient.

Most importantly, he would show his seriousness.

"Heh. Boring." Chu Xiao said that and then left directly.

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## Chapter 475: Giving You Some Interest

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The conversation between Chu Xiao and Yuan Zhou didn't affect Yang Da. He was still watching carefully.

After all, there wasn't much time left and he needed to prepare the surprise.

Yang Da arrived late today. So it wasn't long before Yuan Zhou brought out the daily sentence.

"Lunchtime ends now. See you in the evening, everybody."

With his back perfectly straight, Yuan Zhou stood at the long curved table. He was wearing the Han Chinese clothing with lotus-flower patterns and had refreshing and clean hair. On his face was the usual look of seriousness. He appeared like the prince charming mentioned by his girlfriend.

That was the very impression of Yuan Zhou that Yang Da had when he first saw him.

This time, Yang Da even observed his appearance and actions carefully in order to study them.

"Goodbye." Like all others, Yang Da said goodbye to Yuan Zhou.

Yuan Zhou answered every one of them earnestly and politely.

Yang Da had barely exited the restaurant and got on his electric bicycle when his phone rang.

"Hello, is that Mr. Yang Da? Your express delivery arrived. Please sign." Once the phone was put through, there passed the sound of a young deliveryman from the other end of the phone.

"Yes, it's me. Where are you?" Yang Da asked him directly.

"I'm at the entrance of the Fengling Residential Area you wrote on the bill. Please come and receive it." The young deliveryman said earnestly.



"Alright. I'll be there in five minutes. Please wait for a moment." Yang Da also answered courteously.

"Okay. Hurry up, please." The deliveryman urged him habitually.

"Got it, got it. I'll be there in five minutes." Yang Da answered repeatedly and then hung off the phone.

He switched on the power and directly drove the electric bicycle away.

"The last one finally arrived. It seems that I should do that today." Yang Da said with satisfaction.

The electric bicycle was running quickly on the streets. Even so, he didn't forget to make a call when he was waiting for the green light.

He took out his phone and dialed a person called "Partner".

"Beep Beep". The phone was answered very soon.

"What's the matter? Brother Yang." It was a male voice that sounded smart and sincere at the other end of the phone.

"I'm unable to come to work in the afternoon and evening. I'm calling to ask for leave." Yang Da said quickly and straightfowardly.

"Do you have an emergency? We have a lot of business recently." The man at the other end said hesitantly.

"I'm sorry. It's a very important private matter. I will have to trouble you to make some arrangements." Yang Da said with a firm tone.

"Only today, right? But if so, there will be no full-attendance bonus this month. You know, I have to give everyone their due." The man at the other end stayed silent for a while and then continued saying.

"Okay. No problem." Yang Da knitted his brows tight, but still said resolutely.

"Fine. You keep busy, Brother Yang." Once he said that, the man hung off the phone first.

"Goodbye." This word was directly chocked back in Yang Da's throat.

"This guy is still like that." Yang Da muttered to himself with slight embarrassment.

At that time, the red light switched to green and then Yang Da rode back to the residential area.

"Zi". Yang Da stopped the bicycle. He saw from a distance that a man dressed in a delivery uniform was standing at the entrance of the residential area.

"Hello. I'm here to receive Yang Da's express delivery." Yang Da went up and said directly.

"Here's it. Please check if there are any damages." The young deliveryman looked at him carefully for confirmation before he took out a carton and handed it to him.

"Sure." Yang Da unpacked the carton and then sighed his name when he found there wasn't any damage.

It was the chinaware made to order from Taobao. Of course, he had to check it to be relieved.

After receiving the express delivery, however, Yang Da didn't go back immediately. Instead, he turned around and headed to the food market and started to buy vegetables.

"It's not early now. I'd better prepare earlier." While he was selecting the vegetables, he checked the time.

What he meant was naturally the time when his girlfriend Little Ruo got off work.

After he bought the vegetables, Yang Da returned to their rented house and began to wash and process them in the narrow kitchen.

"Ping Ping Pang Pang". The kitchen was so small that it could

only allow one single person to cook inside. Yang Da had a figure as tall as 1.75m and thus the kitchen appeared slightly cramped for him. However, the smile on his face had never stopped.

Being busy in his own kitchen, Yang Da naturally didn't go to Yuan Zhou's restaurant, which was realized by Master Cheng.

"Why didn't that guy come this evening?" Master Cheng craned his neck and looked at the long line outside. When he found Yang Da wasn't here, he couldn't help muttering.

"He's been here for 23 days this month." Yuan Zhou said indifferently.

"Boss Yuan, you can even remember this?" There appeared an incredible look on the fat face of Master Cheng.

"Good chefs should observe all happenings around himself just like what he does to his ingredients." Yuan Zhou checked the various kitchenware in the kitchen carefully without even raising his head.

"Yes, sure. I got it." Master Cheng lowered his head and immediately answered.

"Then what did you see?" Yuan Zhou turned his head and took a glance at Master Cheng.

"He didn't come this time, either. I'm thinking that he might be learning about plate presentation rather than the genuine culinary skills." Master Cheng considered for a while and then continued saying.

"Um." Yuan Zhou nodded his head, but didn't comment if he was right or wrong.

Then, Master Cheng started to consider earnestly.

Yuan Zhou also felt quite competent inwardly, "It feels like I'm posturing more and more deftly. And it seems that I can also start a specific school to develop Yuan Culinary Arts."

He felt he was doing better in teaching his disciples. Meanwhile, Yang Da also successfully completed the surprise that he had prepared today.

He put the food that he had just cooked into the chinaware that arrived this afternoon very carefully and carried it on the small table lightly.

The small table was a very small ordinary wooden table. In normal times, they usually sat face to face while eating. And there was no exception today.

Yang Da filled the bowls with the rice and laid out the chopsticks. After that, the fragrance of the food started to float in the small room.

"Ka La La". There passed the sound of the door being unlocked. Yang Da covered the food and dishes quickly when Little Ruo opened the door and entered the room.

"Huh? Yang Da, why are you at home today?" Just when she opened the door, Little Ruo asked in surprise.

"Go wash your hands quickly and then let's eat." Yang Da revealed a smile to his girlfriend and urged her quickly.

"Wow, even the food has been prepared. Thank you, Brother Yang." Little Ruo glanced at the table and immediately said happily.

"Of course, there will also be a surprise later." Yang Da said complacently.

"Okay. I can't wait to see it." Little Ruo said smilingly while washing her hands.

As she was happy and anxious to eat, Little Ruo sat at her own position very soon.

"Why are they still covered? What dishes are they?" Little Ruo asked curiously with her eyes widely open.

"You uncover them and check it yourself." Yang Da said mysteriously.

"Okay." Little Ruo reached out her white hands directly and removed the cover.

There were four dishes on the table, a plain-fried Jinling Grass, a seaweed soup, a cold-dish tremella and some meatballs loaded in a big chinaware.

"What's this?" Little Ruo was stupefied for a little while before she raised her head and looked at Yang Da.

"It's the interest. Next time, I can give the principal back to you." Yang Da looked at Little Ruo and said to her with a smile.

"Interest? Um. I will be waiting for your principal." Little Ruo also looked at Yang Da and nodded solemnly with happiness in her eyes.

"Let's eat, shall we?" Yang Da said while pointing at the dishes on the table.

"Sure." After a nod, Little Ruo took the chopsticks and started to eat.

These were all dishes served in Yuan Zhou's restaurant that Little Ruo had muttered several times.

Even if the Jinling Grass was slightly yellow from being burnt; even if it was only ordinary seaweed in the seaweed soup; even if the tremella was actually a little excessively sweet after the honey was added, and even if the chinaware used to load the Swedish Meatballs didn't have that ingenious mechanism.

However, Little Ruo ate them very happily. It was great to be able to eat them even though they were not the authentic ones.

# Chapter 476: Another Level Of Enjoyment

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During dinner time, some people once again did not believe in Yuan Zhou's culinary skills.

Just as usual, Chu Xiao, that appeared and disappeared mysteriously, encountered them again. With bitter sarcasm, he started a debate against them and then, Yuan Zhou no longer needed to get involved.

Therefore, the three chefs that had come from afar to taste Yuan Zhou's craftsmanship and then pick his faults suddenly found that they hated Chu Xiao more rather than Yuan Zhou himself.

"You are no different from the two idiots who were here last time at all. Go back and train your tongue before coming out again." After Chu Xiao said that, he turned around and left arrogantly.

"Damn it. I'm pissed. Even if he's Chu Xiao, he can't say that to us." The tallest one among the three pointed at Chu Xiao's back and became exasperated.

"Stop it. Don't play the fool. Let's leave." After saying that, one left first.

"Bad luck. What bad luck!" Another one also left while muttering bad luck.

"Humph." The tallest man was so angry that he wanted to slap the table. When he found the customers in the restaurant were all staring at him with bright piercing eyes, however, he was a little terrified. After that, he snorted coldly and left with quick steps.

"Does this guy specifically come to my restaurant to posture in front of me?" Looking at Chu Xiao and the several chefs that had left, Yuan Zhou murmured inwardly to himself.

"There's surprisingly no place for me to show my abilities." Ling Hong looked at Chu Xiao discontentedly.

"This guy has often appeared suddenly and disappeared mysteriously in Yuan Zhou's restaurant in recent days." Wu Hai stroked his small mustache and appeared quite interested.

"This person is fairly interesting." Other customers started to discuss about him.

"I think Master Chu has such a behavior because of Boss Yuan's craftsmanship." Master Cheng showed enough understanding concerning Chu Xiao's behavior this time.

"Um. That's true." On hearing that, the customers nodded one after another to indicate that they agreed.

The other protagonist of this matter was quite delighted from the bottom of the heart right now as the three chefs were the last three required by the mission. In other words, Yuan Zhou had completed the levelling-up mission now.

The system displayed, "Congratulations, host! You have completed the mission and become a middle-rank chef now. The reward has been released and is available to be received now."

The words of the system made Yuan Zhou relieved. At that time, some customers happened to enter the restaurant and Yuan Zhou immediately greeted them warmly.

"Please order your dishes, everybody." Yuan Zhou sounded quite gentle when he said that.

"Boss Yuan seems so happy all of a sudden." Zhou Jia took a look at Yuan Zhou and muttered in her heart. Meanwhile, she went up quickly and led the customers to the seats.

At the other side, Chu Xiao that had exited the restaurant turned his head and looked at Yuan Zhou's restaurant.

"What an interesting chef that came from nowhere." Chu Xiao's tone was filled with seriousness when he said that.

"Ta Ta Ta". The footsteps of Chu Xiao sounded energetic and

uniform. Not until he got on the car did he take out his phone and begin to dial a number.

"How are you doing recently, Chairman Zhou?" Once the phone was put through, Chu Xiao greeted courteously.

"Haw-haw, it's you. Of course I'm doing great. Are you back home?" The moment Zhou Shijie answered the phone, he revealed a big smile on his face.

"Yes, I'm back." Chu Xiao said cleanly.

"East or west, home is best. How long are you going to stay this time?" Zhou Shijie asked smilingly.

"One week." Chu Xiao answered plainly.

Chu Xiao had a purpose when he intended to call Zhou Shijie. If Zhou Shijie didn't mention that, however, he wouldn't mention that, either.

"Why don't you stay longer?" Zhou Shijie asked.

"It's fairly busy over there in France." Thinking of the sous chef that shouted and screamed through the phone, Chu Xiao said that as if he had been moved by conscience.

"How many days have you been back? I promised to invite you to dinner. You haven't forgotten about that, have you?" Zhou Shijie finally got to the point.

"Just two days. I still remember that. You name the place and I pay." Chu Xiao said cleanly.

How was it possible for Chu Xiao to have been back for just two days? As a matter of fact, he had been back for nearly one month, but he didn't feel embarrassed at all when he told lies. It was unknown how the sous chef would think of that in France.

Presumably, he would point at Chu Xiao and ask him if his conscience hurt.

"Haw-haw, okay. This old guy's pension is probably too little to



eat a meal." Zhou Shijie agreed readily and didn't intend to refuse.

Zhou Shijie's promise naturally aimed to let Chu Xiao and Yuan Zhou come into contact. However, the dishes served in Yuan Zhou's restaurant were notoriously expensive, so it was also for increasing their relationship to let Chu Xiao pay for the meal.

Zhou Shijie thought that naturally.

"You name the place and time. I will come over to pick you up." Chu Xiao was quite courteous when he said to Zhou Shijie.

"Master Chef Restaurant at No. 14 of Taoxi Road. It's run by that little brat. Let's go there to eat." Zhou Shijie directly brought out the address of Yuan Zhou's restaurant.

"No problem. And the time?" Chu Xiao didn't have different opinions, as it was also what he aimed for.

"On the second day before you leave, namely, in the evening four days later. What do you think of the time?" Zhou Shijie considered for a while and brought out the time.

"Okay. I'll come over to pick you up then." Chu Xiao was satisfied with the time, which was sufficient and ample.

"You'd better come earlier by then. That little brat is a stubborn donkey. Even if we two go there together, we have to line up. He has no consideration for others' feelings at all." Zhou Shijie felt it a little funny when speaking of that.

"I know. He's quite a principled chef." Chu Xiao spoke highly of Yuan Zhou.

"Yeah. It's a good thing and also a bad thing to be principled. It is lucky that he's a genius like you." Zhou Shijie sighed and then said affirmatively.

"Thank you for your praise." Chu Xiao indicated that he could only hear Chairman Zhou praise him to be a genius. As for the other thing, he didn't hear it at all.

"Haw-haw. You are welcome. It's a world for you young people nowadays. It's good that you can all do well." Zhou Shijie said generously.

"Um." Chu Xiao nodded and answered plainly.

"Alright. You've just got back and had better overcome the jet lag as soon as possible. That way, you can go to eat in your best state." Zhou Shijie urged Chu Xiao to go to have a rest straightforwardly.

"Ok. See you in the evening four days later, Chairman Zhou." After he said that and got Zhou Shijie's answer, Chu Xiao hung up the phone.

"I'm so eager for the surprise four days later." Chu Xiao sat in the car and looked at the side street where Yuan Zhou's restaurant lay.

At the other side, Zhou Shijie hung off the phone and then prepared to call Yuan Zhou. When he glanced at the time, however, he put the phone down again.

"It seems that the dinner time hasn't ended in the restaurant. I'd better call him at 9:00." Zhou Shijie murmured.

Of course, it wasn't because Chairman Zhou didn't want to bother Yuan Zhou.

Instead, it was because Yuan Zhou never answered his phone when he called Yuan Zhou as long as it was during the meal time. After a few times, Zhou Shijie got to know Yuan Zhou's business time.

It was indeed close to the ending time of the dinner in Yuan Zhou's restaurant.

"Dinner time has ended. You are all welcome to come early next morning." Yuan Zhou brought out the words habitually.

Then, the customers left one after another.

"Bye, boss." "Boss Yuan, I'm going to tidy up the pub." Zhou Jia and Shen Min said with one accord.

"Ok. Go ahead." Yuan Zhou nodded.

The two girls followed his instructions and left respectively.

"Hoo..." Yuan Zhou let out a sigh of relief and sat down for a rest.

About 5 minutes later, he began to ask the system.

"I have completed the mission today and I am now at Grade 5. So is the revenue sharing adjusted to 60% from today?" The first thing that Yuan Zhou cared about was the revenue sharing.

It definitely wasn't because of the amount of money, but more on the matter of fairness.

Yeah, that's it.

He said that so sincerely that even he himself believed that.

# Chapter 477: A Man Supporting An Entire Region's Cuisines

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"The mission was completed during the dinner time today. So will you calculate the new share of revenue based on the new 60%?" Yuan Zhou asked with a solemn look.

The system displayed, "The calculation will be adjusted tomorrow morning."

"As a system, why do you earn so much money for? It's the safest to give it all to me." Yuan Zhou tried hard to persuade the system.

The system displayed, "Host, there were no expense records in your bank account after you visited the clothing shop last time."

"Right. So now you see how frugal I am. Let's just start calculating from today so that we can become more frugal." Yuan Zhou said as if it were obvious.

He totally ignored what the system meant.

The system displayed, "There are no expense records considering your proportion of revenue."

"Yes. I just like seeing the account balance rise rapidly, but stay unused." Seeing the same words, Yuan Zhou said proudly.

That's right. Yuan Zhou sent a text message to inquire about the balance in his bank account every night before going to bed.

After all, he was a person that liked emptying all the coins from the cash box and counting them when he wasn't in a good mood. The key point was that he would feel better after counting the money.

The system displayed, "The reward is available to be received. Host, please accept it."

"Of course I remember the reward. But you don't forget the

matter of revenue sharing." Yuan Zhou constantly thought of his higher share of revenue.

The system displayed, "It will change from tomorrow on."

"No, no, no. We can discuss about it on the basis of fairness. After all, I completed the mission today." Yuan Zhou revealed a serious manner.

"Besides, the business time hasn't ended today. See?" Yuan Zhou gestured to the small pub that was currently in business to the system.

"And you also start to split the revenue after business time ends every day, system." Yuan Zhou continued saying.

"So all in all, the calculation of the revenue sharing should change starting from this evening." Yuan Zhou quoted copiously from many sources and said ceaselessly with fluency

The system displayed, "But you hadn't completed the mission at breakfast time or lunch time."

This time, the system was a little hesitant when it displayed those words.

"Never mind. I'm a quite impartial person. You can start to calculate the new proportion from dinner time." Yuan Zhou said generously.

He said that as if it weren't him that argued strongly on just grounds.

The system displayed, "Based on the facts the host said, the 60% revenue sharing should only apply to the dinner today."

"Um. Thank you, system." Yuan Zhou thanked the system with a reserved expression.

Fortunately, the system didn't have the human emotions. Otherwise, it would probably reply to him with the two meaningful words, "Ho Ho".

"Since we have happily agreed on the new revenue sharing, I can receive the reward now." Speaking of the reward, Yuan Zhou appeared quite delighted.

The system displayed, "The reward has been released and is now available to be received."

"Okay. Let me see my current level, please." Yuan Zhou read silently in his mind.

Then, the system displayed Yuan Zhou's current level straightforwardly.

Text description: This system came from a galaxy unknown to you. It was invented by the famous Dr. A, in order to let humans obtain higher levels of spiritual enjoyment. It was cast away to the earth 2500 years ago and has experienced 10 hosts. You are No. 11."

Target: The system will help you to get a thorough knowledge of both western and traditional Chinese foods so you can become the top Master Chef in the world.

Host: Yuan Zhou (Ordinary Human, Nationality: Chinese Han)

Gender: Male

Age: 24

Physical quality: B+ (overall evaluations of neural response, strength, coordination and dexterity, etc.)

Cooking talent: Unknown

Skill: None

Tools: Incomplete Master Chef Suit

5 Dimensions Cooking evaluation: Proficiency

(A chef that hasn't mastered even one complete region's cuisines cannot be regarded as a senior chef. A title of middle-rank chef is hereby offered to you reluctantly.)

Grade: 5 (60% revenue sharing)

"I have truly levelled up and obtained the title of a middle-rank chef. Sounds great." Yuan Zhou looked at the characters of 60% revenue sharing with satisfaction.

"Show me the reward of the mission." Yuan Zhou continued saying.

[Upgrade mission] Coming here for you (completed)

(Mission tips: Please complete the mission that requires 100 customers to come specifically to eat the delicacies in the restaurant within 30 days.)

[Mission reward] Upgrade once (finished); drawing a lottery once; a special reward; a reward for the intermediate chef (Available)

(Reward tips: More rewards are in the hand of the master chef system. Work hard to level up, young man!)

Seeing all rewards displaying available, Yuan Zhou indicated that he was very glad.

There were three rewards in all. Yuan Zhou was a decisive man. He only hesitated for 5 minutes before he decided to draw the lottery.

"Let me draw the lottery first. By the way, is it still for drawing the regional cuisines?" Yuan Zhou asked before he started.

The system displayed, "Yes."

"So are the existing regional cuisines still the priority?" Yuan Zhou asked again.

The system displayed, "Yes."

"Is there anything wrong with the system?" Yuan Zhou looked at the system that had answered "yes" twice in a row and got a little worried.

He was worried about the matter of the reward.

Having hesitated for a while, Yuan Zhou still prepared to draw

the lottery.

The drawing of the regional cuisines was almost the same every time. Therefore, Yuan Zhou did it quite deftly and easily. He spun the wheel in his mind and just waited for it to stop.

"I hope it's the spicy and fragrant Sichuan Cuisines, which are quite popular among the customers." Yuan Zhou thought optimistically.

However, the system always gave people surprises.

The system displayed, "Congratulation, host. You have obtained the Dongjing Cuisines among the various Cantonese Cuisines. There are five dishes in all. Please receive them."

"Huh, Dongjiang Cuisines?" Yuan Zhou asked with puzzlement.

The system displayed, "Dongjiang Cuisines are represented by Huizhou dishes, which belong to the water-related school of the Hakkas dishes including Dongjiang Salt Baked Chicken, Dongjiang Stuffed Tofu and Preserved Vegetable & Pork, etc. Dongjiang Cuisines have become an indispensable part of the Dongjiang cultural characteristics.

"System, this content seems to be copied from Baidu." Yuan Zhou couldn't help ridiculing.

The system displayed, "It is good as long as you understand."

"Yes, quite well." Yuan Zhou nodded.

The system displayed, "Host, please receive the reward."

"Receive." Yuan Zhou answered cleanly.

The broken piece of the regional cuisines immediately flew into Yuan Zhou's deep mind. The cooking method of the five dishes and the summary began to appear in his heart and mind.

After checking each of them, however, Yuan Zhou felt that he needed to make a complaint.



"System, is Su Dongpo one of your relatives? Among the five dishes rewarded, four are related to him." Yuan Zhou appeared quite helpless.

The system displayed, "Su Dongpo's real name is Su Shi. His assumed name is Zizhan or Zizhong and he is known as Tieguan Taoist or Lay Buddhist Dongpo. People usually call him Su Dongpo or Su Xian. He has nothing to do with this system. I suggest that you pay attention to his background and you'll know the reason."

"Are you looking down on my cultured self? I'm merely a chef." Yuan Zhou clearly felt the contempt from the system.

The system displayed, "Host, you'll become a Master Chef that will have a thorough knowledge of both western and traditional Chinese foods."

"Well, this reason has me convinced." Yuan Zhou took the phone and began to check things about this person.

Speaking of which, the knowledge of Chinese literature that he had learned before had already been returned to his teacher. However, he could still recite some poems written by Su Shi. However, concerning his background, he didn't really know much.

After checking, Yuan Zhou was greatly astounded.

"There are 12 classical dishes in total here, six are related to him. Awesome, Master Su! Did you even bring so many cuisines to Huizhou when you were banished from the court over there?" Yuan Zhou muttered to himself.

This single person supported the entire Dongjiang Cuisines. Frankly speaking, all Dongjiang Cuisines had something to do with Su Dongpo, just to different extents.

This reward is so nice!

# Chapter 478: Possessing Complete Cuisines For A Banquet

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"The five dishes all look very nice. The only problem is that the vegetable dishes are too little." Yuan Zhou was quite satisfied with the reward.

The size of the broken pieces that he had drawn this time was fairly good. It was pretty satisfying to get five dishes at a time, although all of them were related to Master Su.

After drawing the lottery, Yuan Zhou took a rest for a little while and then said again.

"System, what's the special reward?" Yuan Zhou asked curiously.

The system displayed, "You'll know after you receive it."

"Alright." Yuan Zhou shrugged.

It turned out that the system did not have a habit of giving out spoilers. It would not tell anybody anything in advance every time.

"I had better check the reward of the middle-rank chef now." Looking at the remaining two rewards, Yuan Zhou still decided to postpone the lottery until the last minute.

"System, am I a middle-rank chef after the level-up this time?" Yuan Zhou asked positively.

The system displayed, "Yes."

"So I was only a junior chef before?" Yuan Zhou continued saying.

The system displayed, "Yes."

"If so, where's the reward for the junior chef?" Yuan Zhou asked directly this time.

That's right. He asked so many questions just to lay the groundwork for this question.

The system displayed, "There's no reward for a junior chef."

"Then why are there the rewards for middle-rank chef?" Yuan Zhou pointed at the rewards and asked.

The system displayed, "After the level up, you can receive the reward of the middle-rank chef automatically. Or, you can also give up the opportunity."

"Ahem Ahem Ahem. Receive." Yuan Zhou choked on the system's words and then received the reward immediately.

The system displayed, "The reward has been received."

Then, Yuan Zhou felt at ease. It would be a great loss to lose this reward if he wasn't careful enough.

The reward of the middle-rank chef was displayed in the form of a gift package. After receiving it, Yuan Zhou opened the box straightforwardly and then he sat there dumbfounded for quite a while before he returned to his senses.

Because there were a total of ten dishes this time. The reward of the middle-rank chef was so magnificent.

"The usually stingy system surprisingly gave me ten dishes at a time. How generous it is!" Yuan Zhou was quite satisfied when he leafed through the menu in his mind.

"System, will there be such rewards when I level-up next time?" Yuan Zhou asked excitedly.

The system displayed, "When you reach the senior chef and become the Master Chef, you'll have another chance to receive such kinds of reward."

"There are truly more." Yuan Zhou stroked his forehead and became quite happy.

The reward obtained this time was much more than the reward just now. It was really a magnificent gift package.

It was an entire fish banquet. The ten dishes were cooked with

every part of the fish body.

"Haw-haw. I'm now a chef that masters dishes of an entire banquet." Yuan Zhou smiled contentedly.

That's right. Yuan Zhou had always been a little regretful. If there was a very important banquet, others would usually serve the dishes in the order of cold dishes, hot dishes, whole chicken, fish, and then soup as well as desserts.

At present, however, Yuan Zhou really wasn't able to make a complete banquet like that.

Therefore, Yuan Zhou never asked Chu Xiao when he and Zhou Shijie would come to eat dinner even if he had been here for so many times.

However, the situation changed. Yuan Zhou was now a man that had mastered the fish banquet.

There were indeed fish banquets in the market, but very few chefs were able to cook an authentic one.

Just when Yuan Zhou was laughing with his hands on his waist, his phone rang.

It was still the old-fashioned music of "Ding Ling Ling, Ding Ling Ling".

There appeared the two glistening characters of "Chairman Zhou" on the phone screen.

"He phoned me just when I thought of him. What a coincidence!" Yuan Zhou took his phone and directly answered.

"Little Boss Yuan, are you done now?" Chairman Zhou asked kindly once the phone was put through.

"Hi, Chairman Zhou. I've just finished." Yuan Zhou said courteously.

"Haw-haw. It seems this old guy called you just in time." Chairman Zhou said complacently.

"Yes." Yuan Zhou nodded and answered.

"Chu Xiao is back home." Chairman Zhou changed the topic to proper business.

"Yeah, I know." Yuan Zhou thought of Chu Xiao's behaviors for the last one month and said positively.

"I promised him last time to invite him to dinner when he came back. Let's eat in your restaurant. What do you think?" Chairman Zhou wasn't much too courteous. He just said straightforwardly.

Due to the previous journey to France together, Chairman Zhou and Yuan Zhou were quite familiar with each other.

"No problem." If it was yesterday, Yuan Zhou might have been a little hesitant. But now, he wouldn't.

"Well, great. You have to show us your genuine capabilities this time if you want to suppress Chu Xiao's arrogance." Chairman Zhou said smilingly.

"Of course. That's for sure." Yuan Zhou said deservedly.

Chu Xiao was nicknamed by Yuan Zhou as Arrogant Chu previously. But now, Yuan Zhou was quite sure that he was not likely to be defeated by him.

"Haw-haw. I'm going to count on you then. It will be in the evening four days later." Chairman Zhou smiled contentedly.

"Um. But I'm afraid that you two can't eat the entire banquet prepared this time. You can bring two more people and do remember to come earlier to line up." Yuan Zhou thought for a while and reminded him.

"Banquet? Alright. No problem. I know your rules, little stubborn donkey." Chairman Zhou thought of two candidates and then agreed readily.

"So see you, Chairman Zhou." Yuan Zhou directly said goodbye to him.

"Ok. I'm not going to bother your preparation of the dishes." Chairman Zhou hung off the phone leisurely.

After a moment, he took the phone again and straightforwardly dialed the candidates that he was prepared to bring.

Having hung off the phone, Yuan Zhou prepared to process the fish and started to get familiar with various cooking methods of the fish banquet.

He even stopped paying close attention to the remaining reward.

In Yuan Zhou's opinion, Chu Xiao was quite a competitor. That's right. Yuan Zhou took him as his competitor. Yuan Zhou naturally wouldn't fail, but he still couldn't be careless.

Four days were fairly sufficient for Yuan Zhou to get familiar with it and cooking it deftly.

Before he got familiar with it, Yuan Zhou turned and opened the menu to check the name of the fish dish. This time, however, he surprisingly found something new.

A line of small characters was written at the bottom of the menu. Judging from the position, it was written by the system.

[Note: The fish dishes are specially prepared for a banquet. They aren't available for sale during normal times.]

"Damn it!" After reading that, Yuan Zhou couldn't help cursing.

"System, what does that mean?" Yuan Zhou felt that his understanding of Chinese was pretty bad.

Just now, he didn't understand how Master Su Dongpo supported the entire Dongjiang Cuisines while now, he didn't even understand the meaning of this sentence.

The system displayed, "Only on occasions such as the birthday dinner, important treats, marriage and commemoration, etc. is the fish banquet available."

"Just now you told me the fish dishes can't be ordered separately

and must be ordered as a whole. And now there's surprisingly another scam. System, did you specially plant mines before and thus is able to do such things invisibly?" Yuan Zhou complained straightforwardly.

However, the system didn't anything at all.

Yuan Zhou took a deep breath and comforted himself in the heart that it was useless to dispute with the capricious system. Only after that did he say again.

"Is it a big event if the chairman of the China Chef's Alliance stands treat?"

The system displayed, "It's all up to you to decide on the important treating matters."

"System, you don't seem to be that deceptive sometimes." Only then did Yuan Zhou let out a sigh of relief and was relieved.

Although it was a little suspicious formerly, this answer nevertheless made Yuan Zhou very pleased. After all, not everyone could eat up a complete fish banquet with ten dishes.

If they couldn't eat it up, then a rule is a rule...

## Chapter 479: Yuan Zhou's Anger

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Although the receiving the rewards were a little deceptive, they were enjoyable on most occasions. Therefore, Yuan Zhou couldn't wait to try the various cooking methods of the fish dishes.

As a result, Yuan Zhou ate fish dishes for a midnight snack that night and Broth also ate some fish bones conveniently.

"Aren't you a Maltese? Why do you eat fish bones?" Looking at Broth that was holding the bowl and eating blissfully, Yuan Zhou couldn't help but ask.

However, the reaction from Broth was no reaction. It just continued eating the fish bones blissfully.

"Fortunately, the fish bones are crisp. How odd it is that you are not a cat but eat fish." Yuan Zhou originally thought the fish bones were also bones and hence wanted to see if Broth ate them.

The results were far beyond Yuan Zhou's imagination. Broth not only ate them, but also ate them happily and quickly. Thus, Yuan Zhou couldn't help ridiculing at that.

Having been laughed at, Broth still ate the fish bones attentively and blissfully.

As for the matter of being mocked by Yuan Zhou, Broth indicated that he didn't care as long as he could eat the fish bones. After all, he didn't understand the words at all.

Seeing Broth could truly eat them up, Yuan Zhou returned upstairs and prepared to wash up and sleep.

Treating was important but so was resting. It was one of the standards of a prince charming to sleep and get up early.

"Ling Ling Ling, Ling Ling Ling"

Along with the routine ringing of the alarm clock, Yuan Zhou went to wash up with his eyes still closed. After he woke up



completely, he went out to exercise and then wash up again. Following that was the busy breakfast time.

The amount of visitors by the side street were in accordance with Yuan Zhou's business hours. Therefore, the side street was quite bustling right now. Nowadays, the store owners started to do business according to Yuan Zhou's business hours to guarantee the most customer flow.

Just as usual, the one-hour breakfast time passed soon in Yuan Zhou's restaurant. He rested for a short moment and prepared to continue processing the fish.

"I might as well eat another fish dish for lunch today." Having decided on his own lunch, Yuan Zhou took the kitchen knife and prepared to cook.

"Boss. Hi, Boss Yuan." A man who was dressed in a dark blue business suit with a crew cut said to Yuan Zhou with a full smile on his face once he entered the restaurant.

"Hello. Breakfast time has ended and the lunch time is still a few hours away." Yuan Zhou told him straightforwardly once he started to say.

"I'm not here to eat. I come here to look for a business cooperation." The man in the suit and a crew cut said smilingly.

"I'm sorry. It's not during business hours now, so I won't entertain anybody." Yuan Zhou wasn't interested in other business.

"I know, I know. It's not convenient for you and me to talk about this during business hours." The man in the suit said with a tone like "I'm doing this for you", which made Yuan Zhou frown slightly.

"My business is good and I don't need other business." Yuan Zhou refused blankly.

"It is because your business is so good that I came to cooperate

with you. I'm helping you earn money." The man in a suit turned a deaf ear to Yuan Zhou's words that were hinting at him to leave.

"Not necessary." This time, Yuan Zhou replied him plainly.

"No, no, no. Listen to me. You'll definitely have an interest in it. I'm helping you to earn money." The man in the suit still said with a big smile.

In Yuan Zhou's eyes, however, this man was grinning cheekily, which made him dislike this man more.

"I won't think about it." After saying that, Yuan Zhou straightforwardly lowered his head and washed his hands, preparing to catch the fish.

"This is a win-win opportunity. It's also what you lack here in your restaurant. I can provide you with the drinks for free and you decide on how much you sell. I only want the cost." The man in the suit said confidently.

"I'm sorry, I'm going to be busy. I don't care about your win-win business opportunity and I have no interest at all. Please get out of the door and turn right to get out of the street." Yuan Zhou gestured to him the door which was wide open.

"Let me put it this way, I want to place a vending machine beside your door. Look! There are so many people going back and forth around here every day. Therefore, the sales will definitely be very good. I will pay you some extra money for renting a place to store the drinks. When they are all sold, you just reload the drinks. Of course, the electric charge is to be paid separately. And I will give you the original price for the drinks." The man in a suit and a crew cut looked at Yuan Zhou with an affirmative expression after saying that.

He was very sure that Yuan Zhou would agree. In his eyes, it was definitely because the restaurant was too small which caused Yuan Zhou's business time to be so short every day. Now that he could

make some more money, he would surely agree.

After all, no one would refuse more money.

Moreover, he had promised to provide the electricity charge and rental fee. Even for the drinks, he only charged the original price. He clearly knew how expensive the dishes were sold in this restaurant. There was definitely no problem to raise the price by two or three times.

"Ho Ho. Take care and goodbye." Seeing the man in the suit talk to himself for quite a while, Yuan Zhou answered plainly.

"Are you sure you don't want to earn the money? My drinks are all branded Cokes or milky tea and will undoubtedly sell well. They are both popular and cheap." The man in a suit and a crew cut knitted his brows slightly this time, but he still said earnestly.

"I think I have made myself well understood. Bye." Yuan Zhou directly started to drive him away.

"I just want to put the machine in your restaurant for advertising. This is an opportunity to earn some money without any cost. Are you really going to drop it?" The man in the suit and a crew cut said again.

Nevertheless, Yuan Zhou directly ignored him and didn't look at him.

"Hey. Boss Yuan!" The man in the suit didn't seem to be happy.

However, Yuan Zhou didn't answer him at all. Then, the man in the suit suddenly lost his temper and walked out of the restaurant quickly.

"What a fool! He doesn't even pick up the money in front of him." When the man in a suit walked further, he spat at the restaurant.

Yuan Zhou felt that he finally sent away a tough guy, but the subsequent situation nevertheless made Yuan Zhou a little speechless.

Because the man in the suit and a crew cut came to the restaurant again in the evening. Furthermore, it happened during business time.

"I'm sorry. You can't get in the restaurant for a meal unless you line up." Zhou Jia stopped him directly.

"I know your boss. I have business to talk to him." At any rate, the man in the suit made a living with his face. He said that without even blinking.

"Even so, you can't get inside." Zhou Jia directly refused him.

The two people spoke a little loudly and thus Yuan Zhou heard it all. When he carried the dishes on the table, he said straightforwardly.

"I'm sorry. I'm not planning to expand my business." Looking at the man in a suit and a crew cut, Yuan Zhou still refused him blankly.

This time, the man in the suit couldn't endure anymore. He directly said, "Ho Ho. You are the boss and you decide. But you'll never encounter such a good opportunity to earn money without any cost again."

"Where did this idiot come from?" Yuan Zhou was too lazy to answer such words with sarcasm. However, Wu Hai just stroked his small mustaches and looked at the man in the suit with an expression as if he were looking at an idiot.

"Humph." Without saying anything more, the man in the suit turned around and left immediately.

"Tsk. People are really different." Wu Hai looked at the man in the suit that was leaving with interest.

After all, this kind of eccentric person was not easy to be found.

Last time, a person wanted to pay his respects to Yuan Zhou as his teacher and appeared as if it was an intolerable injustice if Yuan

Zhou didn't take him as his disciple while this time, this person intended to look for cooperation but nevertheless revealed an expression of "I'm thinking highly of you by doing that."

"Boss Yuan, you are so popular among various kinds of people." Wu Hai said with sarcasm.

"I'm not as good as you." Yuan Zhou said cleanly.

Right now, Yuan Zhou still had the mood to joke with others. Tomorrow, however, he wouldn't have that mood. Something directly made Yuan Zhou lose his temper...

# Chapter 480: Move It Back The Way You Moved It Here

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Early next morning, Yuan Zhou moved a chair from the second floor to the shelf at the door after the breakfast time ended as usual, preparing to sculpt.

"Come over here. Put it here. Yeah, right over here." A resounding and complacent male voice in high and vigorous spirits suddenly came into Yuan Zhou's ears.

"Okay, just put it there. I have prepared an extension cord as long as 15 meters. Is it enough?" The female voice was distinguishable more clearly this time. Judging from the voice, it was the female boss from the noodle restaurant next to Boss Tong's store.

"Tsk-tsk. There are definitely many people that will buy the drinks in future." The shrill voice passed to Yuan Zhou again.

"Haw-haw, of course. This location is well-selected. We have to thank Boss Yuan." When the man mentioned the two characters of Boss Yuan, he especially said loudly for fear that Yuan Zhou couldn't hear him.

"Exactly. It's all because he has so many customers in his restaurant." Others could hear a strong feeling of envy from the voice of the female boss.

"What a stupid action to put the vending machines over there since there is such a good position!" The man in the suit and a crew cut pointed at the start of the street sneeringly. There were two vending machines that belonged to two different companies over there.

"Haw-haw, of course. You are so smart." The female boss smiled and praised him generously.

However, he had indeed reached his purpose. Yuan Zhou raised his head and took a look.

Instantly, he knitted his brows tight.

As far as he could see, a bright yellow automatic vending machine as large as two queuing machines was erected beside his queuing machine that was filled with the sci-fi style.

The male voice was naturally from the man in the suit and a crew cut that had pestered Yuan Zhou for quite a few days.

The site that the man in the suit had originally settled on was where Yuan Zhou placed the shelf to display the radish sculptures, namely, at the door of Yuan Zhou's restaurant.

After he was refused flatly for a few times, however, the man in the suit also lost his temper. Therefore, he straightforwardly placed the vending machine next to the queuing machine of Yuan Zhou's restaurant. By doing this, he was simply trying to disgust Yuan Zhou.

Although that didn't disturb Yuan Zhou, it offended him as if a toad had jumped on his foot, not biting him but stinking the place. Yes, Yuan Zhou was offended.

Immediately, Yuan Zhou stood up.

"Hey, don't mess things up, Boss Yuan. I have the informed consent from the Street Administration Office and I rented this place." The man in the suit and a crew cut took out a piece of paper sneeringly.

Nevertheless, Yuan Zhou just turned around and moved the chair back. Not to mention a reply, he didn't even give him a glance. Seeing that, the man in the suit felt slightly embarrassed.

"Let's just ignore him. He's simply eccentric." The female boss said that with a cold snort and helped him out of the predicament.

"Yeah, you are right. Let's plug in the power quickly and then you can get an extra income. The big boss turns up his nose at such little money." The man in the suit with a crew cut said loudly and cynically.

"Flies coming from nowhere are really clamorous and disturbing people. When did a toilet appear in this side street?" Yuan Zhou was closing the door and didn't intend to talk with them. It was Boss Tong who said that loudly while looking at the two clamorous persons.

"You!" The female boss immediately turned her head and wanted to curse her, but was then stopped by the man in the suit. They started to operate the vending machine and stopped saying anything more.

"Humph. They can do nothing but some small tricks." Boss Tong snorted coldly at the vending machine that the two people were fooling with and gave her comments.

"Even so, they are disgusting." Yuan Zhou smiled faintly to Boss Tong and said.

"Take it easy. That's no more than a small trick." Boss Tong revealed a look of contempt. She wasn't optimistic about those two people.

"Um. I'm going to the Street Administration Office." Yuan Zhou nodded mildly and then said that.

"Go ahead. The staff of the Street Administration Office must be crazy to let that person place the machine over there." Boss Tong was biased towards Yuan Zhou and naturally she spoke in favor of him.

"I'm going now." Instead of following her to blame the staff, Yuan Zhou thanked Boss Tong and then turned around and left.

Yuan Zhou walked to the Street Administration Office unhurriedly in 5 minutes.

The Street Administration Office of Taoxi Road was like an ordinary business hall, but was a little smaller. There was a young girl seated not far from the glass door.

After a sound of "Zhi Ya", Yuan Zhou pushed the door open and



entered the business hall.

"Boss Yuan, what brought you here?" The young girl immediately stood up and asked him.

"I'm here to talk to the director." Yuan Zhou turned to look at the young girl and said earnestly.

"She's in the office now. Let me take you there." The young girl immediately answered.

"Thank you." Yuan Zhou nodded and thanked her.

If it were others, the assistant and receptionist girl actually wouldn't take him inside. Anyhow, Director Wu was an officer. It wouldn't work if anyone who wanted to see her could see her at once; furthermore, she was also a public servant.

It was impossible for one to be admitted to her office without being questioned. At the very least, one had to take out one's ID for registration before the young girl called Director Wu for confirmation and only then would they get the opportunity to see her.

However, Yuan Zhou was different. First of all, the young girl had followed Director Wu to deal with the matter of Brother Jun surrounding Yuan Zhou's restaurant last time and therefore knew Yuan Zhou. Secondly and most importantly, she was very clear of whom Yuan Zhou was. He was a man that boosted the GDP of an entire division with single-handedly.

He directly brought Taoxi Road great prosperity. Thus, it was way too normal to give him due respect.

"She's inside." The young girl pointed at the door in front of them, turned around, and then said to Yuan Zhou.

"Um." Yuan Zhou nodded his head peacefully.

"Director Wu, here comes Boss Yuan." The young girl knocked at the door politely.

"Come in, come in." There passed the enthusiastic voice of Director Wu. Right after that, the door was opened.

"Why did you bother to knock on the door? Just come on in. Boss Yuan, the formalities are unnecessary." Director Wu looked at Yuan Zhou reproachfully.

"Um." Yuan Zhou nodded coldly as usual.

Director Wu was quite clear that Yuan Zhou didn't like talking. She sent the young girl to prepare tea for them with a few words.

"Go prepare two cups of tea." Director Wu said to the young girl.

"Alright. It won't take long." The young girl answered and intended to turn around.

"You don't need to prepare tea. I'll leave right away after saying something to Director Wu." Yuan Zhou stopped her and said lightly.

"Okay. What's the matter, Boss Yuan? Have a seat and tell me." Director Wu didn't insist on preparing tea. She pointed at the sofa beside them and said to Yuan Zhou.

"No need. I'll leave once I finish." Yuan Zhou shook his head.

"What's the matter?" Director Wu looked at with puzzlement.

"A man came to my restaurant and caused trouble at the door. I hope you move him away. He has affected my business." Yuan Zhou defined the man in the suit and a crew cut as the one who caused trouble straightforwardly.

"What happened? Which stall dares to make trouble at the door of your restaurant? Does he take me as an easy person with no reason?" On hearing that, Director Wu immediately revealed an angry look.

The anger was 100% real. After all, the importance of Yuan Zhou's restaurant was self-evident.

What a joke! Yuan Zhou was a man that boosted the GDP of an

entire division single-handedly.

"A man who has your consent has placed his vending machine at the door of my restaurant." There was still blandness on Yuan Zhou's face.

"Well..., it's all my fault. I originally thought he could provide the customers the convenience to buy drinks around your restaurant. Then, I will let him move away." Director Wu immediately thought of the man in the suit and a crew cut and became embarrassed. Next, she compromised and made the promise.

"No need. I will let him move it back the way he moved it there." Yuan Zhou was quite affirmative when he said that.

"Little Yuan, just do it. I will let him move to other places first if he stands in the way." Director Wu answered directly with a smile.

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# Chapter 481: The Actions of The Committee

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After Yuan Zhou said that, Director Wu agreed straightforwardly without any consideration.

"I won't interfere in this matter. Just do as you wish." Director Wu said trustfully.

"Um. I'm quite an easy-going person. I will let him move away voluntarily." There was not the slightest discontent appearing on Yuan Zhou's solemn face.

As for what he really thought in the heart, God might know. After all, Yuan Zhou had always been a fair-minded person.

"Little Zhao, you go to let him move to somewhere else." Director Wu straightforwardly told his assistant at the side with a solemn look.

"Okay. I'm going right now." The young girl answered clearly.

"Sorry to bother you." Yuan Zhou said that to the two people and then turned around and left.

"Take care. Little Yuan, you can give me a call if such things happen again in future." Director Wu said courteously behind Yuan Zhou.

"Um." Yuan Zhou nodded his head without giving an affirmative or negative answer.

"Ta Ta Ta". The footsteps of Yuan Zhou gradually faded.

"Director, is it the man that came here yesterday?" Little Zhao was also very smart, thus she directly asked.

"Yes. Luckily Boss Yuan didn't blame us. That man really has a glib tongue. Go tell him to move away." Director Wu was quite angry with the man, but since Yuan Zhou said he would drive him away personally, she couldn't destroy this little fun of Yuan Zhou.

"This can be regarded as the benefits of Yuan Zhou," thought

Director Wu.

"Okay. I will tell him to move a little further." Little Zhao nodded her head and said earnestly.

"Don't let him move too far away. Otherwise, Little Yuan won't be glad." Director Wu was quite an experienced person. She knew about such things well.

"Got it." As a smart girl, Little Zhao understood that immediately upon hearing that.

The man must remain in Yuan Zhou's sight but can't affect Yuan Zhou.

Yuan Zhou left there earlier while Little Zhao left a little later as she had spoken with Director Wu for a little moment.

As a result, the man in the suit and a crew cut only saw Yuan Zhou return alone.

"Huh! Where did you go, big boss?" It seemed the man in the suit wanted to win back the respect that he had lost when he bowed and scraped several days ago from Yuan Zhou.

As usual, Yuan Zhou's response was to disregard him. He took out the key and unlocked the door directly. Then, he went back to the second floor and carried the chair downstairs, preparing to watch the fun.

"Well, this is really perfect timing." Yuan Zhou had barely sat down when Little Zhao arrived.

"Mr. Liu, it doesn't conform to our rules to place the automatic vending machine over here. Please move it away." Little Zhao came straight to the point.

"Why? Beauty Zhao, Director Wu gave permission to me yesterday to place it here. Why do you say it no longer conforms to the rules?" The man in the suit asked carefully with a look of embarrassment.

"This is also the instructions from Director Wu. Please hurry up and move it away." Little Zhao kept a straight face and said solemnly.

"Okay. I'll move it to the side a bit." The man in the suit was quite helpless.

However, he didn't intend to stand on ceremony to Yuan Zhou. Therefore, he prepared to move it in front of Yuan Zhou's queuing machine straightforwardly.

"No. You can't put it here, either. Move it over there." Little Zhao pointed to the place about 5 or 6 meters away from the queuing machine across the street primly.

Of course, this place was still in Yuan Zhou's sight in spite of that.

"Beauty Zhao, don't you think it's too far? Look. This is the official seal." The man in the suit didn't want to let go of this opportunity to disgust Yuan Zhou.

"Hurry up. Otherwise, you cannot put the machine around here anymore if Director Wu comes over and sees that." Little Zhao kept a straight face and didn't intend to listen to him.

"Alright, alright. You are the boss. I'll move it right now." The man in the suit was so angry that he gnashed his teeth.

"Um." Little Zhao just stood aside and watched him, not preparing to leave until they moved the machine away.

"What are you doing there? I have paid you guys the money. Come and move it away." The man in the suit dared not lose his temper at Little Zhao from the Street Administration Office, but he naturally wouldn't be so courteous to the workers that were paid to move the machine.

"No, boss. You named this place just now. If you want to move it again, I have to charge you another 50 RMB. Otherwise, no way." The worker in charge said in a low and muffled voice.

"This is a robbery. You can't do business like that." The female boss of the noodle restaurant rushed over here and shouted.

"Excuse me. We are leaving, boss." The workers cared little about that. They stood up and prepared to leave.

"Go ahead. I'll move it by myself." The female boss snorted coldly.

"Ok. Take your time." The worker in charge revealed a sneer.

"Things change so quickly. Interesting." Looking at the workers leaving, Yuan Zhou said that softly.

"She took the workers as people with no temper. The machine is at least 150 kg. Haw-haw." Yuan Zhou thought inwardly yet with an indifferent manner.

Having watched the fun, Yuan Zhou returned to the restaurant to prepare things with which he intended to use to counterattack against that guy. However, it would only be hung out tomorrow.

Wouldn't it be more painful to fall down from a higher place?

"I'm a nice person." Yuan Zhou muttered to himself while writing.

As for the scene where the man in the suit and the female boss of the neighboring noodle restaurant were carrying the machine laboriously, that didn't have anything to do with Yuan Zhou. After all, they deserved the consequences.

With Yuan Zhou's eyesight, he easily saw the originally kind workers become angry when they heard the man in the suit scolding them. Naturally, it came as no surprise that they didn't carry the machine for him.

Little Zhao stood at the side watching them move the machine and only left when the machine was moved to the designated place.

Before she left, she especially said goodbye to Yuan Zhou.

Yuan Zhou was quite satisfied with the current place. Although it was unpleasant to look at, it didn't affect him. Besides, they offered him plenty of reasons to drive him away.

"People from the Street Administration Office are definitely worldly-wise." On second thought, Yuan Zhou understood why Director Wu asked the man in the suit to put the machine over there.

About half an hour before Yuan Zhou's restaurant was opened at noon, Wu Hai came downstairs in advance and prepared to breathe some fresh air. After all, he had worked on the conception of his painting for a whole morning.

As for the matter where Wu Hai went back to sleep again after breakfast and only got up at 10:30, there was no reason to mention that.

Once he was downstairs, he walked straight towards Yuan Zhou's restaurant. When he walked halfway, however, he went back a few steps.

"What the hell is this thing? Why is it here?" Looking at the vending machine in the front, Wu Hai said with a frown.

He looked at the vending machine and then at Yuan Zhou's restaurant.

"What the hell is this? It's so ugly when placed here and besides, it greatly affects the aesthetic feeling. No, how could this thing be placed here?" While Wu Hai was muttering to himself, he knitted his brows more tightly.

"Yuan Zhou isn't likely to agree to that and the people from the Street Administration Office won't be so stupid. Wait a minute. The people from the Street Administration Office might have approved that. Then, it's definitely the man in the suit and a crew cut that used some tricks." Wu Hai immediately figured out this matter.



After all, the man in the suit had always been talking to Yuan Zhou with an arrogant attitude, which was well-known to all the regular customers.

Standing across Yuan Zhou's restaurant, Wu Hai took a photo of this vending machine and then uploaded it to the Wechat group of the queuing committee.

There were only a few people in the group. Only Jiang Changxi, the "three-lost" woman and female president, and Ling Hong, the second generation tycoon were online.

"This is the vending machine of that disgusting man. Did he succeed?" Jiang Changxi sent a question mark in the group.

She hated that man in the suit and a crew cut very much. She was known to be both a beautiful woman and a president of a big company. Yet, the first time the man in the suit saw her, he fixed all his attention on her body and that made her feel awfully disgusted. However, she hadn't found an appropriate opportunity to give him a lesson.

"What do people drink those things for? I don't like drinking any of them." This was Ling Hong's reaction.

"So let's take him down." Wu Hai made the decision straightforwardly.

Therefore, the three leaders of the queuing committee, Wu Hai, Ling Hong, and Jiang Changxi, reached an agreement.

## Chapter 482: Yuan Zhou's Warm Reminder

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"Is this the vending machine mentioned?" Ling Hong took the phone and gradually approached.

"Yes. That's it. It simply destroys the aesthetic feeling." With his brows knitted tight, Wu Hai was still thinking of that oil painting of his.

After it was sold out, Wu Hai even paid the buyer to redeem it. This was a first. Because of that, he made some concessions to Zheng Jiawei on some matters. Judging from that, one could imagine how Wu Hai treasured that oil painting of People Passing by A Small Restaurant.

But now, this machine that had no aesthetic feeling at all was placed at the door of Yuan Zhou's restaurant. Wu Hai was really unable to tolerate that.

"Indeed. He actually sold the drink over here. What good do these drinks do to people?" It was once in a blue moon where Ling Hong shared the same opinion with Wu Hai on a matter.

Ling Hong never drank those drinks. Without any reason, he just didn't like drinking them.

As a rich and capricious second generation tycoon, he naturally didn't want others to drink it either. Yeap, that was the simple and crude logic.

"Ho Ho. I will let him know what being unable to sell means." Jiang Changxi stood behind the two people and said confidently.

"Of course." Wu Hai stroked his small mustaches and nodded.

"I will provide the money needed," said the wealthy Ling Hong.

"Okay. So starting from tomorrow, we send soybean milk to everyone free of charge during breakfast." Jiang Changxi worked out a plan quickly.

"Will that work?" Wu Hai indicated that he really had no idea of things on business.

"No problem. Let's buy out all the soybean milk from the street peddlers and then give them out to the customers. We can put them beside the queuing machine and that will be perfect." Ling Hong nodded his head and then said that.

"Why don't we move this machine away directly?" Wu Hai thought of a simple and crude method.

"First of all, he must have got the approval from the Street Administration Office before he placed the machine over here. That is why it's not good to move it away directly now. Secondly, we are all civilized people and therefore should treat everybody gently when it comes to business." Jiang Changxi grinned.

"Does giving out the soybean milk for free also count?" Wu Hai murmured with a low voice.

"Of course. After all, we are squeezing him out of the business openly." Jiang Changxi turned his head, looking at Wu Hai, and then said mildly.

"I'm going to inform Boss Yuan that we are going to put a shelf beside the queuing machine." Wu Hai had a very sensitive instinct. He said that immediately when he saw the smile of Jiang Changxi.

"Um. Let's just take this matter as being the perks to the customers from the committee." Ling Hong waved his hand in a generous manner.

"Tsk. I also have much money." Wu Hai stroked his small mustaches and walked into Yuan Zhou's restaurant swaggeringly.

"Shua Shua". Yuan Zhou was writing something on the LED panel seriously.

"Boss Yuan, Boss Yuan?" Wu Hai saw Yuan Zhou taking the LED panel, standing at the stairs and writing.

"Um. There are still ten minutes before the business time." Yuan Zhou put the pen down and said earnestly.

"I know, I know. I have learned the time by heart." Wu Hai nodded his head.

Then, Yuan Zhou stared at Wu Hai just like that and revealed a very clear meaning as if to say, "Since you know everything, why are you still standing there? Why don't you go out?"

"I have something to say. I'll put a basket beside your queuing machine to provide the drinks to the customers in line." Wu Hai instantly understood Yuan Zhou's meaning and said immediately.

"Okay. Don't occupy too much space." Yuan Zhou nodded.

In Yuan Zhou's opinion, it wasn't a big deal to put a basket there. Besides, he was very sure that the drinks were free. After all, Wu Hai didn't seem to be a person good at doing business.

"Alright. That's it." Wu Hai turned around and left.

Neither Wu Hai, Ling Hong nor Jiang Changxi intended to tell Yuan Zhou about their intention. It was the matter of the queuing committee.

And Yuan Zhou also thought of a good solution.

Along with the arrival of the business time at noon, the customers outside became more as usual.

It was a little cold and there were also hot drinks in the vending machine. Besides, it was close to Yuan Zhou's restaurant and thus more people came to buy.

In no more than half an hour after the business time commenced, the female boss of the noodle restaurant had replenished the drinks three times. She appeared to be as proud as a peacock every time she carried the drinks.

The fourth time she did so, the female boss said to Boss Tong directly.

"Ouch! I'm so exhausted. Why is my business so good? Even if it's 2 RMB more expensive, so many people still come to buy it." The female boss revealed uncontrollable complacency.

"Humph." Boss Tong snorted coldly. On his skinny face, there appeared an expression of contempt.

"You guys are all big boss. You don't care about so little money, but I do. I'm poor. Look! I have earned a profit of over 200 RMB in such a short time." The female boss covered her mouth and appeared quite complacent.

She was right. Boss Tong was the second candidate that the suited man with a crew cut found, but she straightforwardly refused him.

After all, Boss Tong had really encountered such a matter where Yuan Zhou had refused people twice already.

In her opinion, one had to get others' consent if they wanted to use others' customers to do business. Even Boss Tong had thanked Yuan Zhou since her business became better, let alone this man in the suit who wanted to steal Yuan Zhou's business. Naturally, Boss Tong wouldn't agree.

"I indeed don't care about the money earned this way." Unlike Yuan Zhou, Boss Tong wasn't good at the speaking. She directly answered immodestly.

"Of course, of course. But I have to say Boss Yuan is really a good person that brings us the money." The female boss laughed and said.

"Although you bounced up and down happily now, you are no more than the tail of a rabbit. It won't be long." Boss Tong pointed at the female boss and said straightforwardly.

"Ho Ho. It will last until Boss Yuan no longer opens his restaurant anymore." The female boss said that indignantly and afterwards, turned around and left.

She had to check if the drinks in the vending machine were sold out. If so, she must replenish them. Only that was the most important thing.

As for Boss Tong, the female boss only took her as a jealous old woman.

In Yuan Zhou's restaurant, however, it was still as bustling as before. The customers talked about the current affairs and the delicacies. And some tried to get others' food with various tricks. Everyone of them was as same as usual.

If there was any difference, it might be that everyone was holding a drink, some were normal-temperature carbonated drinks while some were hot milk tea.

"Well, it seems that many people are buying it." Yuan Zhou nodded his head privately.

Yuan Zhou wasn't worried at all. After all, only the good business today could give a contrast to the worse business tomorrow. When there was contrast, there will be pain.

Not only Yuan Zhou, but also the three people, Jiang Changxi, Ling Hong, and Wu Hai that had reached an agreement were thinking this way.

During the dinner time, the sales of the vending machine were even more fearful. The female boss almost had to replenish the drinks every 15 minutes. The frequency lasted until Yuan Zhou closed his restaurant.

"I'm so exhausted. The cash box is too small." The complacency on her face almost flowed out.

"I said it would work. Now you see that I'm right. It doesn't matter if the drinks are more expensive. I charge more than that and that's considered quite normal." The female boss said to his husband with a prideful tone.

"Yeah, you are right." The boss of the noodle restaurant was an

honest person. On hearing that, he just echoed without saying anything else.

"Of course I'm right. I have to call that person and order more drinks. It is better if we store more drinks. The more, the better." The female boss thought that shrewdly.

"Okay. Let me tidy them up," said the boss obediently.

Once the phone call was put through, the man in the suit and a crew cut started to boast. After they praised themselves for having the unique foresight, they confirmed an order for more drinks.

Early next morning, however, an LED panel was placed outside of the door of Yuan Zhou's restaurant.

It was still the colorful neon lamps that twinkled with Yuan Zhou's special taste. Nevertheless, it wasn't about a new dish or a promotion activity this time. Upon raising their head, the customers could easily see the characters of "Warm Reminder".

## Chapter 483: Working Both Ways

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"What's this?" The grandpa, a regular customer who often came to eat Soup Dumplings, looked at the colorful LED panel while squinting and trying to ignore the twinkles.

"Warm reminder?" Another customer who came right after the grandpa also saw that and then read that out.

"What are you talking about? What did Boss Yuan post again?" Those who couldn't see the panel behind them immediately asked.

What a joke! The customers were most afraid of Yuan Zhou suddenly posting a notice. It meant that he would ask for leave again.

"It's not the leave request, but a sort of warm reminder." A customer ahead of others tried to comfort the anxious people.

"That's great. But what exactly is the warm reminder?" The customer asked again after that.

When they heard there was the warm reminder, the customers behind came up and surrounded again. Then, the small LED panel was surrounded by crowds of people.

"Hey, bro. Please read it for us. We are behind you guys and can't see it." Ma Zhida arrived late. He tried to read the content by himself, but failed. Therefore, he had to shout that way.

"Yeah, yeah. Please read it so that we can know what Boss Yuan wrote there." Those customers that couldn't see the panel behind others started to say that one after another.

"Please. Read it for all of us." The customers continued saying that.

"Okay. Let me read for you guys." The grandpa answered loudly.

Then, those customers behind stopped shouting anymore and just waited there to hear what Yuan Zhou did again. Hopefully,



there was a new dish.

As for what the others saying that it was a warm reminder rather than the menu, wasn't it possible that it was a warm method of new dishes? The customers were quite good at guessing.

"Warm reminder: Firstly, the banquet dishes are to be released very soon. It'll be coming soon." The grandpa read that in measured tones.

"Secondly, respecting the old and cherishing the children are a good tradition while couples in harmony end up in happiness. So it's very important to get along with each other well." While reading that, the grandpa seem to feel this sentence was a little familiar."

"Thirdly, people that smile are the most beautiful; people that learn are the best; people that are healthy are the most awesome! Please drink fewer drinks."

"The drinks contain abundant substances including colorings, additives, and preservatives, etc. These compositions require plenty of water during the metabolism in the body. Besides that, the caffeine contained in the cola has the function of diuresis and will accelerate the discharge of water. Therefore, the more you drink carbonated drinks, the thirstier you become."

"While the carbon dioxide inhibits the bacteria contained in the drinks, it also produces inhibitory effects to the beneficial bacterium thus, the digestive system will be ruined. So, having drinks before the meal will result in abdominal distension, affecting the appetite and taste or even cause irritable bowel syndrome which may lead to gastrointestinal disease."

"All in all, I hope none of my customers have drinks within half an hour before you eat in the restaurant."

"That's all."

"That's all it says." The grandpa read through the lines of

professional knowledge in one breath.

"That was so tiring." The grandpa took a rest for a while and then said.

"I know it isn't healthy to have much drinks previously, but I have never thought the result could be so serious." A customer sighed.

"Exactly. I just bought a hot milk tea." Holding a cup of milk tea in his hand, another customer was hesitant to throw it or not.

"It's simply because we are slightly thirsty while waiting." Another customer frowned and said that.

"Boss Yuan said just now that the drinks can't quench thirst." A customer pointed at Yuan Zhou's warm reminder and said.

"But there is no mineral water inside." The customer who had frowned just now said that while pointing at the vending machine at the side.

That's right. In order to disgust Yuan Zhou, the man in the suit and a crew cut studied Yuan Zhou's menu carefully. He knew there was water served in Yuan Zhou's restaurant and hence didn't sell the mineral water. In the vending machine were all kinds of drinks.

"Boss Yuan provides plain boiled water during lunch and dinner now. I think that's definitely a good option." When the customers thought of the sweetness of the water, they instantly became a little thirsty.

"You young people really should have less drinks like that. It's enough just to try the taste of them." Having taken a rest, the grandpa said that.

"Yeah. I tasted the drinks yesterday. Let me drink the soybean milk today." A customer accepted the good advice and said that.

"Yeah, yeah, yeah. Boss Yuan is actually caring about us, but it's

just a little odd." Tang Xi kept silent for quite a while and leaped happily.

"It's indeed so. The concern from Boss Yuan is really so distinctive." Another customer burst into laughter and said that.

"I also think so. If I hadn't read this over there, I would believe it was a slogan written in a housing estate." A customer said that while pointing at Yuan Zhou's warm reminder.

"Now I know why I felt it a little familiar. It's like the slogan appearing at our housing estate." The grandpa said that while pointing at the sentence "Respecting the old and cherishing the children."

"Haw-Haw. Look! There is another line of small characters below." A customer who found that first pointed at the lower part of the LED panel.

[The first and second slogans are from Baidu. If there is any infringement of the law, please contact me so I can delete it. Thank you.]

"Puff.... Haw-haw-haw-haw."

"What the hell is that? The slogans really are from Baidu. The last one was definitely said by Boss Yuan." The one that the customer was talking about was naturally the slogan that advised customers not to have the drinks.

After all, no official slogan would suggest that people not have drinks.

Then, these customers contrarily felt that Yuan Zhou was so interesting. Originally, Yuan Zhou was an aloof, earnest, and principled person who spoke little and who was cold on the surface but warm on the inside.

After all, it greatly warmed their hearts when Yuan Zhou prepared new towels for the customers on rainy days.

"Come on. Here comes the first benefit from the queuing committee. Everyone can get a cup of soybean milk for free." Just when the customers sighed with emotion, Man Man's vigorous voice sounded.

"Soybean milk? No wonder I feel it was so silent around here today and that nobody was selling soybean milk. So they were all bought by you guys?" On turning his head, a customer saw the big basket beside Man Man and thus said with a smile.

"You are right. They are all bought by us. This morning, we'll treat all you guys to a cup of soybean milk each." Man Man nodded her head smilingly.

"It seems that they really don't want us to drink the drinks." A customer sighed with emotion.

"Exactly. Boss Yuan has just posted the warm reminder and then our queuing committee brings us soybean milk." The customers said that one after another.

"Speaking of which, the soybean milk sold around here is very tasty and authentic." A customer took the soybean milk and started to drink.

"That's right. I think they all learn from Boss Yuan and use authentic ingredients." Another customer squinted and smiled.

Yuan Zhou's slogans were publicized very soon to others. Some even took photos of the slogans and posted them on their Wechat Moments or microblog. Not long after that, all customers got to know that.

As Yuan Zhou suggested that people shouldn't have the drinks within half an hour before the meal, the slogans had no influence on others who sold drinks. What they really affected was the vending machine in front of Yuan Zhou's restaurant.

Having got up early and replenished the drinks once, the female boss of the noodle restaurant became puzzled.

"What's wrong with them? There are so many people but why are they not buying my drinks?" The female boss looked at the customers in front of Yuan Zhou's restaurant with puzzlement.

"What happened? Why are all of them drinking soybean milk?" Soon, the female boss of the noodle restaurant found that every customer was holding a cup of soybean milk in their hand, which was so unscientific.

"It is lucky that we just can't drink the drinks within half an hour before the meal. Next time, I'm going to come after drinking." It was the solution that the customers who liked drinking the drinks figured out.

So, this was Yuan Zhou's method. He was indeed unable to let people give up the drinks, but he could at least let them not drink them half hour before the meal. By now, the female boss had felt the horror of being dominated by Yuan Zhou.

She didn't even sell ten bottles within one hour...

## Chapter 484: Taking Advantage of Yuan Zhou Isn't That Easy.

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Yuan Zhou's warm reminder didn't really have much influence on customers who liked drinking the drinks and meanwhile eating the delicacies of Yuan Zhou's restaurant. They could come over here after drinking. As a result, the only one affected was the vending machine of the man in the suit with a crew cut.

"What's the matter? They decide not to drink in the morning?" The female boss was a little anxious inwardly.

Looking at the customers that were prepared to leave one after another, the female boss went up to a girl and asked her.

"Beauty, why are you not having drinks in the morning?" The shrewd face of the female boss was full of smiles.

"I won't drink them from now on. I must follow Boss Yuan's advice." The girl said earnestly.

"Did that boss suggest that you not have the drinks?" The female boss immediately answered.

"Yeah. Because he cares about us very much." The girl turned around and left after she said that.

"Damn it. What did that little thing say to the customers?" The female boss stared at the empty restaurant and murmured angrily.

"I must go to ask around." The female boss wasn't really a person that gave up so easily.

Not to mention it was no more than one hour.

After she asked three customers, however, they all said it was because of Yuan Zhou's reminder, the so-called warm reminder.

"This damn little guy seems to be sealing my road for gaining money." The female boss was very angry. She decided to go up and

look at the warm reminder.

The place where the warm reminder was placed was quite conspicuous. It was exactly at the door of Yuan Zhou's restaurant. Therefore, she caught sight of that as soon as she approached.

After reading them one by one, the female boss laughed in her heart.

"Is that all? I thought it was something very special." Then, she felt at ease.

In her opinion, such a kind of reminder was totally useless. Nowadays, the young liked behaving contrary to others' expectations. Even their parents' words didn't work, let alone a boss of a small restaurant.

"He doesn't even know that the young hates to be sermonized. He's really an innocent youngster." The female boss snorted coldly and returned at ease.

Not long after the breakfast time ended, the man in the suit with a crew cut led a van full of the drinks here.

"This is way too much. We don't have sufficient space to store them." Looking at the drinks that filled the van, the boss became slightly overwhelmed.

"Let's just put them under the tables in our restaurant. Anyhow, they can be stored." The female boss said with an indifferent tone.

"Yeah, right. Put all of them under the tables so that we can move them out easily." The man in the suit immediately echoed.

"Exactly. I moved the drinks all day long yesterday and hence I was really exhausted." Although the female boss was complaining, there was a complacent smile on her face.

"It's indeed tiring. We have sold almost 35 cartons of the drinks in only half a day yesterday, right?" The suited man was also very happy.

"Yes. We'll have to replenish the drinks again shortly." The female boss nodded her head.

"Are these 65 cartons of drinks enough for your business till the evening?" The suited man smiled and said.

"I'm not sure." The female boss also smiled. Both of their smiles were quite complacent.

"If we put them under the tables, how will our customers eat?" The boss said helplessly at the side.

"How many customers do you think can eat your noodles? Even the business of selling drinks is better than the noodle business." The female boss contradicted him immediately.

"Alright. You decide." Asked by his wife in that way, the boss instantly became speechless and had to agree.

"Move them in. All of them." While the couples were talking, the suited man led the workers to move the drinks inside.

"Here's the deal. You buy these drinks at the market price and I'm responsible for the cost and repair of the vending machine. You decide on the selling price of the drinks by yourself. This is the total cost of the 65 cartons of drinks." The man in the suit took out the calculator and figured out the total cost before he handed it to the female boss.

"No problem." After she calculated again, she confirmed the number and then agreed readily.

Normally, the buyers would get extra 5 bottles when they purchased a carton of 12 bottles of drinks, or they bought at 2.5 RMB and sold at 3.0 RMB. But the female boss had truly bought the drinks at the market price, just because this place was way too good.

After that, the remaining profit naturally belonged to the man in the suit. It was also the reason why he tried his best to put the vending machine in Yuan Zhou's restaurant formerly. People were



always tempted by money.

People could easily reach that conclusion after they checked the astonishing sales volume from the half day yesterday. It was only the sales volume on cold days. If it were on hot days, the drinks sold could possibly be much higher than that.

After all, the vending machine was different from the small stores. It was quite normal for things sold from the vending machine to be more expensive while in small stores, people wouldn't accept that price. After all, the vending machine was covered by a high-tech cloak.

After they finalized the transaction happily, the man in the suit proposed to go and check the vending machine.

"Let's go to have a look. Anyhow, we have taken advantage of others. I don't know if he sells drinks and if there's any impact on his business." The man in the suit said beautiful words hypocritically.

"Yeah. We might have to replenish the drinks." The female boss was very proactive in watching the fun of Yuan Zhou.

"Yes. Let's go." The suited man nodded.

"Ta Ta Ta". The two of them walked to the vending machine in less than 2 minutes.

After they checked, however, they found there were still plenty of drinks inside.

"Why are there still so many drinks?" The female boss muttered.

"It's still not the lunch time yet and fewer people would buy them. Besides, your price is different from others'. Those passers-by would definitely go to the small store over there to buy drinks." The suited man immediately knew the reason when he saw the doubled price.

"That makes sense. Those customers who wait in line haven't

arrived." The female boss nodded.

"So don't worry." The man in the suit said to her in a comforting tone.

"I'm not worried. The sales volume yesterday is there." The female boss said complacently.

"Em. What's that?" The suited man pointed the panel that twinkled with colorful radiance in front of Yuan Zhou's restaurant and asked.

"That's the reminder from that person about not drinking the drinks." After the female boss said that, she explained in details what was written on that. Of course, she didn't forget to mention her opinions.

"Haw-haw. He surprisingly figured out such a stupid method. It's really so ridiculous. You forbid others from drinking the drinks and they have to obey you? Don't affect our business after your own business goes down." The man in the suit burst into laughter and glanced at Yuan Zhou who was sculpting with a gaze of great contempt.

"Is this damn thing yours?" Wu Hai suddenly appeared at the stairs and asked.

"Yes. Whatever you like, pay and take it." The female boss immediately greeted them affably.

She knew this person was very wealthy. Everyone looking for him drove luxury cars.

"You think that reminder is useless?" Instead of answering the female boss, Wu Hai just looked at the man in the suit with a crew cut and said that.

"Of course. He's just an insignificant boss. Who will obey him?" The man in the suit said with a tone of contempt.

"Okay. Don't leave at noon. I would like to invite you to watch

the fun." Wu Hai squinted and said that while stroking his small mustaches.

"What kind of fun?" The suited man asked with puzzlement.

"The name is 'taking advantage of Boss Yuan isn't that easy'. What do you think?" Wu Hai turned his head and said to Ling Hong who had just come downstairs.

"Good. The name is perfect. Let's go." Ling Hong nodded his head and paid no attention to the two people.

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## Chapter 485: The Biter Is Sometimes Bit

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"What the hell are you guys? Don't be so arrogant even if you are wealthy." The female boss that had been disregarded appeared quite irritated and spat with a low voice.

"Isn't it easy to take advantage of Boss Yuan? As chance would have it, I did. Ho Ho." The man in the suit and a crew cut indicated that he would never take out the money that had entered his pocket.

That's right. The vending machine belongs to the company, but the extra money he earned privately had already entered his pocket securely.

"What are you talking with them for? They will know the results later." There came the voice of Ling Hong from a distance.

"I'm afraid it will be disappointing if the lead roles aren't present." Wu Hai said with a smile on his face.

"That's true." Ling Hong nodded his head.

"What big words! It is none of your business how I sell my drinks." The man in the suit couldn't help scolding.

"Absolutely. This person has no reason to poke his nose into others' business." The female boss also spat.

However, Ling Hong and Wu Hai couldn't hear them.

Ling Hong had intended to go to Jiang Changxi to discuss the matter at noon and in the evening with Wu Hai. Thus, he brought Wu Hai, the forever "Shut-in", out of his house.

As for the man in the suit, he unexpectedly didn't leave. He decided to stay there until noontime in order to see the scene where the customers came in an endless stream to buy the drinks, which had appeared yesterday.

Meanwhile, the female boss replenished the vending machine

again and even dismantled many cartons filled with the drinks so that she could replenish the machine quickly when the business started booming at noon.

Time passed quickly, especially in the morning. For Yuan Zhou, it was only the time required to sculpt a piece of broccoli and prepare the ingredients, which passed very soon.

Then, the side street became boisterous. All customers waited in line to swipe their identification card before they got the number ticket and eat there.

"Hey, what are you going there for?" A young and tall person stopped his friend.

"I'm thirsty and want to buy a cola." The young man that had been stopped revealed a puzzled look.

"No, no, you'd better not. Didn't you hear Boss Yuan say that drinking the drinks would affect the taste of the food? Boss Yuan will provide the mineral water shortly. Only that was the genuine taste would go with the mineral water." The young and tall person said immediately.

"Are you serious?" His friend asked with puzzlement.

"Of course. Didn't you check your Wechat Moments? Everybody is transmitting Boss Yuan's warm reminder." The young and tall person nodded his head.

"Alright. We come to eat with great difficulty, so I don't want my good mood to be spoiled by this matter." His friend nodded and wasn't so thirsty after thinking about Yuan Zhou's delicacies.

After all, he could drink the drinks at any time, but seldom did he have an opportunity to eat Boss Yuan's delicacies.

"My friend, have you ever heard of the queuing committee? We are now providing the mineral water for free. You don't need to pay." Judging from the tone, it was naturally the fatty of the four people from the queuing committee.

"I know. Aren't all queuing matters in the charge of you guys?" The young and tall person answered.

"That's good. Go there to get the water." The fatty guy pointed at the queuing machine. Over there, the slim and tall guy was distributing the water.

It was Jiang Changxi's second strategy, which happened to coordinate with Yuan Zhou's warm reminder. They complemented each other and directly made the buyers stop buying the drinks.

There were still 10 minutes before Yuan Zhou's restaurant was opened for business.

"Um. It seems that nobody is going there to buy drinks anymore." Yuan Zhou stood on the second floor and looked at the vending machine without a single person around.

"Haw-haw. I seem to be a person that relies on my attractiveness to live too. I have nothing but slightly superior culinary skills. What shall I do with that?" On the next second, Yuan Zhou turned around, burst into laughter and then said to himself complacently.

It was lucky that Yuan Zhou, who lived based on his attractiveness, went downstairs after checking the time. After all, the culinary skills were still quite important.

"What's the matter? Why isn't even one bottle of the drinks sold?" Having ran over to check the vending machine six times, the female boss appeared worried.

"Remember what I said? The tail of the rabbit won't be long. Am I right?" Boss Tong said gently with a big smile.

"It's none of your business. Mind your own business." The female boss scolded directly.

"It's indeed none of my business, but I have a hobby of watching the fun of others." Boss Tong burst into laughter after she said that.

"Humph." The female boss snorted coldly and then turned her head and said to the man in the suit loudly.

"Can you tell me what the problem is?" She asked indignantly.

"Let's wait for a while longer." The man in the suit frowned and said.

"Wait? What the hell are we waiting for? You said the same thing to me three times. I have sold a great pile of drinks during the same time yesterday. Why is it so different from yesterday?" The female boss became quite angry.

"It might be because you set the price too high. Why not lower the price for a try? After all, this isn't the tourist area." Looking at Yuan Zhou's restaurant with crowds of customers, the man in the suit started getting nervous.

"Lower the price?" The female boss shouted in surprise.

"Yes. Lower them to the normal price. Let's play hardball." The suited man turned to look at the female boss earnestly.

"Will that work?" The female boss asked tentatively.

"Absolutely." The suited man was quite confident.

"Okay." What the female boss actually considered now was how to sell them out rather than how to make more money.

"Ding Ding." After some simple operations, the prices were all lowered to the normal level by her.

This was the human nature. Things bought by many people would attract more people to buy them while those that products that few people bought would be eventually not be bought, even if the price was lowered. This was a kind of sales psychology.

As a result of Yuan Zhou's warm reminder and the action of the queuing committee, the vending machine was visited by no one during lunchtime at noon.

"You said it would work to lower the price. What's the matter? I

sold only a little bit of drinks in the morning and now, not one of them could be sold." The female boss turned around and looked at the man in a suit with an indignant gaze.

"Wait. You didn't even sell much in the morning?" The suited man concentrated on this crucial point.

"Yeah. It's understandable if fewer people drink these drinks in the morning, but now, what do you say about the situation at noon? Is there anything wrong with your drinks? They no longer come to buy after they drink it once." The female boss looked at the suited man with puzzlement.

"That's impossible. All these drinks are purchased from branded producers and are free from any problems. It might be because you sold them so expensively yesterday and then they no longer come again today." The man in the suit shrunk from his responsibility instantly.

"I adjusted the price yesterday evening and even then, I sold out a dozen cartons. There must be something wrong with your drinks. Otherwise, why is that damn guy unwilling to cooperate with you? Trust me, you can never get out of this street if you dare to cheat me." With her eyes widely open, the female boss became more suspicious about this person in front of her.

Then, even the male boss of the noodle restaurant turned to look at the man in the suit with puzzlement.

After all, only fools didn't like earning money and were afraid of having more money. It was definitely because of the inferior drinks that made Yuan Zhou stop doing business with him.

"But this young Boss Yuan is so wicked that he didn't even remind us. Doesn't he know that we are his neighbors?" The male boss took a look at the bustling Yuan Zhou's restaurant discontentedly.

"Woo. I have an itchy nose. It seems somebody is talking about



me." Yuan Zhou knitted his brows and refrained himself from sneezing. He just continued cooking the dishes seriously.

During the process, Yuan Zhou wouldn't allow himself to sneeze, even if he was wearing a face mask.

While Yuan Zhou was enjoying the feeling of cooking delicacies at his end, the other two people were quarreling heatedly.

"What are you threatening me for? I'm doing business legally. What exactly can you do to me?" The man in the suit was quite speechless with the female boss.

"Haw. You dare to cheat me of so much money. Give it back to me, hurry up." The female boss and her husband blocked the way out secretly.

A fight was going to break out at any time.

The man in the suit that had taken action against Yuan Zhou encountered the female boss of the noodle restaurant now. This might be the so-called "The Biter Is Sometimes Bit."...

## Chapter 486: "Nice Guy Card" Yuan Zhou

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"Let me tell you. I'm not to be trifled with. If you don't give the money back to me today, don't even think about leaving this place." The female boss glared at the suited man with her arms on her waist.

Meanwhile, the male boss also glared at him at the side and revealed an unforgiving manner.

"This is way too unreasonable. This vending machine is provided by me. And how would you know that it failed in less than one day?" Having measured the strengths of both sides, the man in the suit admitted defeat and then said mildly.

"Do you see anybody coming to buy the drinks?" The female boss indicated that she wasn't a fool. She pointed at the vending machine with nobody around across the street and said ferociously.

"What can such a short time stand for? Let's just wait a moment longer patiently and then talk about that." The man in the suit tried to comfort them.

"I don't see any sign of success." The male boss shook his head straightforwardly. He didn't really believe in the words of the man in the suit.

While the three people were debating ceaselessly over there, it was quite harmonious and natural in Yuan Zhou's restaurant.

Seeing the vending machine visited by nobody, the three originators were also very happy.

"I have big breasts, but not everyone can look at them casually." Jiang Changxi drank a mouthful of water and thought coldly in the heart.

"I'm afraid that he won't have the time now." Ling Hong shrugged his shoulders.

"It really ruins the sense of beauty." Wu Hai was still dissatisfied with the machine as it had affected his painting.

"Of course. This is the idea that I worked out personally." Jiang Changxi was fairly confident.

"He will probably move the machine away by tomorrow. Those two guys are not that easy to get along with." Naturally, Ling Hong was talking about the couple from the noodle restaurant.

"It's good as long as it's moved away." Wu Hai nodded his head.

"I think the success should be attributed to Boss Yuan this time." Ling Hong thought for a while and said suddenly.

"Yeah, you are right. If not for the warm reminder, our idea wouldn't work so well in such a short time." Jiang Changxi nodded her head.

"That's right." Wu Hai nodded and echoed.

"Is it you who told Boss Yuan about our plan?" Jiang Changxi looked at Wu Hai suspiciously.

"I'm not that bored." Wu Hai stroked his small mustaches and revealed a look of contempt.

"There seems to be one reason only. Boss Yuan definitely helped us in that way because he is touched by my beautiful appearance." Jiang Changxi stroked her own face and appeared rather proud.

"Hey, 'three lost' woman. I don't think Boss Yuan has a crush on you." Ling Hong's sharp tongue gave a blow to Jiang Changxi.

"Presumably, he offered the help when he saw we were so busy. After all, he is Yuan Zhou." Wu Hai shrugged his shoulders.

"That's really possible." Jiang Changxi rolled her eyes to Ling Hong and then said that.

"I have never expected that Boss Yuan is such a good person." Ling Hong said meaningfully.

"Boss Yuan is indeed a nice person." Wu Hai nodded his head.

"A Nice Guy Card is hereby given to Boss Yuan." Jiang Changxi remembered the matter that she was called back at midnight to pick up the young girl and then said lightly with a nod.

Without Yuan Zhou himself knowing that, he had received three "Nice Guy Cards", one of which was even from a beauty like Jiang Changxi.

If Yuan Zhou had known that, he probably wouldn't be too happy.

Among the numerous reason to break up, the most frequently-used one was the sentence of "You are a nice guy."

Without a girlfriend yet, Yuan Zhou naturally didn't like to receive these kind of words.

Nevertheless, Yuan Zhou had no idea of that.

The lunchtime also passed very soon. In the noodle restaurant, the three people were still discussing about the vending machine.

The female boss insisted that the drinks of the man in the suit were too expensive and the idea was a bad idea and hence requested to return the drinks to him.

Nonetheless, the man in the suit believed that he would never money in his pocket out. Thus, he had constantly been trying to persuade the couple to accept the fact.

As for the male boss, he felt it was all because of the great piles of drinks under the tables that caused nobody to come and eat his noodles for lunch today. Therefore, he also hoped that they can return the drinks to the man in the suit.

"It seems that I still have to eat the fish dishes today." After Yuan Zhou had taken a rest in his chair for quite a while, he muttered to himself.

"Zhi Ya". Yuan Zhou opened the back door.

"Broth, we are going to eat the fish today again." Yuan Zhou said to the dog that lay prone on the ground outside the door.

Having looked up at Yuan Zhou, Broth continued lowering its head and lying there.

"You agree, right? Ok, I'm going to cook the fish." Yuan Zhou said naturally.

However, it was only because Broth couldn't talk. If it could talk, it would absolutely contradict him.

"You give me the damn fish bones without any meat every time, although they also taste good."

It was the agreed day of the treat tomorrow. Therefore, Yuan Zhou had been eating the fish these few days.

All the fish dishes had been cooked once and every time was a success. After all, Yuan Zhou had sculpting skills for the medium and had thoroughly mastered it.

It was fairly easy to kill the fish and make the cuisines.

Yuan Zhou closed the back door and went to catch the fish in the water tank.

"Speaking of which, there are not only the prawns, but also mussels and various fishes now in the water tank. Is it really alright, System?" Yuan Zhou wore the face mask and started to complain straightforwardly.

The system displayed, "Host, you don't actually need to worry about the living conditions of the fishes, prawns, and mussels."

"How can I not worry about that? What if the mussels suddenly spit out a prawn?" Yuan Zhou shook his head.

He suddenly imagined a scene where there appeared a lively prawn rather than the fresh and sweet mussel meat when he opened the mussels. The scene was so beautiful that he really dared not continue imagining it.

The system displayed, "The water tank provided by the system is only used for transshipment and doesn't really affect the lives of these ingredients."

"If so, I probably won't be surprised if I scoop up a whale from inside one day." Yuan Zhou sighed.

The system displayed, "The whale isn't an ingredient for now."

"Awesome, my system! Do you really intend to put a whale inside?" Yuan Zhou was totally scared by the system.

The system displayed, "Thank you for your compliments."

"You are welcome." Yuan Zhou said naturally.

"Since we are talking about this topic, do we possibly have the ingredients of the deep-sea species like half-ton salmons and others later?" Yuan Zhou suddenly thought of the sashimi which was popular in an island country.

The system displayed, "Host, please work hard to level up."

"Can we continue talking with each other happily?" Yuan Zhou was quite speechless.

Then, there was no "then". The system didn't answer him anymore. And Yuan Zhou was also immersed in cooking the fish and couldn't escape from that.

In the office of Zhou Shijie, it was still the female assistant that had invited Yuan Zhou last time.

"Chairman Zhou, whom do you want to accompany you to the dinner tomorrow?" The assistant asked seriously and earnestly.

"Tell Li Minghui and Liu Tong to go with me. Of them, one is the eldest brother and the other is the genius apprentice. Let them witness that Chu Xiao is not the only talent." Zhou Shijie said smilingly.

"Okay. I'm going to inform them." The assistant nodded her head.

"You won't blame me for not taking you there, will you?" Zhou Shijie said quite gently. He was originally the elder of the assistant.

"Of course not. I'm looking forward to your craftsmanship even more." The assistant immediately said that with a smile.

"Haw-haw. Great. I will cook a meal during the Chinese Lunar New Year to satisfy your craving, you little gluttonous cat." Having been complimented that way, Zhou Shijie immediately said happily.

"Then I have to go on a diet and lose weight from today on so that I can eat more by then." The assistant smiled and said mischievously.

"No, you can't. If you become thin, your father will complain about me." Zhou Shijie was made quite delighted by the assistant.

"That won't happen. Okay. I'm leaving to notify the two chefs now." The assistant only left after she said that.

"This cute little thing!" Zhou Shijie smiled and scolded.

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# Chapter 487: A New Drink

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There were 10 dishes in all for the all-fish banquet, including nine dishes and one soup. And all of them were from the reward of the Intermediate Chef.

"Let me just cook a pot of fish soup. Then I can leave half a bowl of the soup to Broth." While scooping up the fish, Yuan Zhou decided on the dish to be cooked.

When he had meals alone, Yuan Zhou was quite random.

"The wild-growing pleurotus ferulae really has a distinct taste." Yuan Zhou picked some mushrooms with the chopsticks and directly chewed it.

That's right. What Yuan Zhou randomly ate was the Stewed Fish with Pleurotus Ferulae, the wild-growing variety, of course.

As for what the pleurotus ferulae was, it was simple.

It was the perennial ferula umbelliferae medicinal plant with another name of Asafetida, of which the root was a precious Chinese herbal medicine. It had the functions of relieving distension and fullness, whetting the appetite, invigorating spleen, curing arthritis, and even inhibit the growth of tumors. Besides, the pleurotus ferulae also belonged to the basidiomycotina hymenomycetes agaricales pleurotaceae pleurotus and was also the representative macrofungi growing in the arid grassland.

Moreover, it was regarded by the local people as the divine mushroom in Tianshan Mountain and white glossy ganoderma in the west. Due to over-exploitation and livestock trampling, the natural resources were severely destroyed and the wild-growing pleurotus ferulae was becoming lesser and lesser every year. Currently, the pleurotus ferulae sold in the market were mostly cultivated artificially. Neither the taste nor the fragrance was as good as that of the wild-growing ones.



"It is truly the best quality since it is provided by the system." Yuan Zhou drank a mouthful of fish soup and sighed with emotion.

Speaking of the best quality, Yuan Zhou suddenly remembered that he still hadn't received a reward. He hadn't received all of the rewards at a time.

"It seems that my obsessive-compulsive disorder isn't as serious as I imagined." Yuan Zhou said with a tone of narcissism.

Fortunately, there was nobody around. Otherwise, Yuan Zhou would be mocked to death. His obsessive-compulsive disorder had been so serious that he even built a ladder to ensure the painting was in order. How come that it got better?

"System, I still have a special reward that hasn't been obtained, right?" Yuan Zhou uttered and asked.

The system displayed, "Yes."

"I want to get it now." Yuan Zhou said cleanly.

The system displayed, "Host, please draw the lottery by yourself."

"Lottery again? Wait for a second." Yuan Zhou drank up the remaining fish soup with a gulp and then wiped his hands and cleaned them continuously. Only after that did he prepare to draw the lottery.

"How many times can I draw the special reward?" Yuan Zhou asked first.

The system displayed, "Once."

"Only once for a special reward? You are so mean, system." Yuan Zhou murmured.

"It seems that I have to do some preparatory work." Yuan Zhou thought seriously.

"Hua". Yuan Zhou opened the drawer, took out the bright red 100 RMB notes and took them in his hands for a while. Meanwhile, he

muttered something and only put them down after some time.

"Okay. We can start." As Yuan Zhou finished saying that, there appeared a rotary table in his mind.

Just like what usual during normal times. The names of various rewards were written on the rotary table.

Like 100 varieties of milk tea and a complete collection of fruit drinks, etc. These were contained in one grid. Apart from that, there was also only one other variety in each grid. For example, mint water, lemon water and apple juice, etc.

"So the special reward is actually all drinks?" Yuan Zhou asked with puzzlement.

The system displayed, "Yes."

"If I can draw the 100 varieties of milk tea, I think I can start a milk tea store." Yuan Zhou couldn't help ridiculing.

Then, he was ignored by the system. Luckily, Yuan Zhou had gotten used to that and thus continued watching the rotary table.

"System, what is the mineral water doing here since I'm now drawing the drinks?" Yuan Zhou really couldn't understand why the mineral water was also counted as the drinks. It was no more than clean water.

The system displayed, "The mineral water is Lourdes Spring Water. It's rumored that the water can cure incurable diseases in the current medical community and has great effects."

"Pardon?" Yuan Zhou was muddled about that.

When did the system learn to say "rumored"? Did that mean it was a legend?

Did that mean his restaurant would become a hospital rather than a restaurant in the future?

"Isn't it the hot spring? Many people are said to go there every year to bathe or drink." Yuan Zhou didn't feel comfortable with

that. If it was real, the spring was actually the bath water.

The system displayed, "You are right."

"If so, isn't it the bath water?" Yuan Zhou rolled his eyes and said discontentedly.

The system displayed, "What the system provides is the Lourdes Spring Water that has never been used."

"I beg to be excused. It still feels like the bath water." Yuan Zhou indicated that he wasn't curious at all. Besides, he was most reluctant to get it.

The system displayed, "The water provided by this system is absolutely superior with top-class effects."

"Can it really cure cancer? It's said that the spring water can make the severed limb grow again, right?" Then, Yuan Zhou became more curious.

The system displayed, "No, it can't. The spring water just has abundant nutrient substance and antiviral factors, which have slight relieving effects on some diseases."

"I see." Yuan Zhou indicated that he wasn't really interested in that. Since it can't cure diseases, the minor effects might not be as good as that of exercising.

Health can keep diseases away, therefore Yuan Zhou felt he didn't want the bath water.

"What's the grand prize at the top?" Having paused for a moment, Yuan Zhou pointed at the grid beside the hand and asked.

The system displayed, "You'll know after you get it."

"Ho Ho. Do you think I'm a fool? That position is the most difficult one to draw." Yuan Zhou ridiculed.

That's right. The position mentioned by Yuan Zhou was the next grid beside the hand. According to probability, the hand was most unlikely to stop at this position. Yuan Zhou was very clear about

that.

"However, any reward is good for me. There's not even fruit juice to drink during the meal except the watermelon juice." Yuan Zhou still felt satisfied with that.

"Breathe." Yuan Zhou took a deep breath and then started to draw the lottery.

As a matter of fact, Yuan Zhou was apparently drawing the lottery in his mind, but why was he taking the money with his hands? After all, that had nothing to do with his hands.

"Start." Yuan Zhou said straightforwardly.

Then, the roulette began to rotate in his mind. During the process, Yuan Zhou closed his eyes and waited earnestly for it to stop.

"Ding." The reminder set by Yuan Zhou sounded.

"What the f\\*ck!" Once he opened his eyes, Yuan Zhou couldn't help cursing.

Because the hand was pointing to the two characters of 'grand prize', which Yuan Zhou was very excited.

"What reward is it?" Yuan Zhou asked happily.

The system displayed, "Host, you can draw the lottery another three times."

"It is actually this kind of reward?" Yuan Zhou was stupefied for an instant before he reacted.

Looking at the rotary table full of rewards, Yuan Zhou became a little more satisfied.

Originally, he could only get one reward. Now that he could get three, it was fairly good.

"What shall I do if I get a grand prize again?" Yuan Zhou asked worriedly, but his tone indicated that he was quite complacent.

The system displayed, "The grand prize only appears once at a time. So don't worry about that, host."

"Ahem, perfect. Anyhow, it's not good to get too many grand prizes." Yuan Zhou coughed to conceal his embarrassment and then began to draw the lottery.

"Ding Ding Ding." After he started, Yuan Zhou closed his eyes as usual. Not long after that, however, there came the sound of stopping three times.

"Damn it! When did I all three times in one go?" Yuan Zhou was a little speechless while looking at the three rewards.

The system displayed, "For the grand prize, you have three chances to draw the lottery and you can get three rewards at a time."

"It's really impossible to take advantage of the system." Yuan Zhou supported his forehead.

However, he was fairly delighted in the heart because he was quite satisfied with the rewards this time. The satisfaction was even greater than expected.

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# Chapter 488: One Person Drinks While Two People Taste

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"They are actually three very practical rewards. I must have good morals." Yuan Zhou said with great satisfaction.

Yuan Zhou drew the lottery for three consecutive times this time. The first reward was the lemon water. One could easily know what it was judging by its name.

The second one was the Longan and Red Jujube Tea, which was quite suitable for the current weather and especially suitable for girls. Of course, there was a special prompt for this drinks, that is, no tea was contained therein.

"Isn't there tea in other Longan and Red Jujube Tea? Yuan Zhou asked curiously.

The system displayed, "The version provided by the system doesn't have tea inside."

"Alright. Everything you say is right." Yuan Zhou said straightforwardly.

Yuan Zhou had no interest in making a fuss about that because the last reward was quite satisfying and even made Yuan Zhou surprised. It was tea, Longjing Tea, more specifically, Pre-Ching Ming Longjing Tea, which was the most precious tea.

"It seems that my Eggshell-Thin Delicate Porcelain Cups can finally work normally." Yuan Zhou said with quite an excited tone.

That's right. Yuan Zhou obtained this reward a long long time ago, but had never used it ever since then. Instead, he just kept it.

After all, there wasn't any matching tea.

The Keemun Black Tea? Yuan Zhou had indeed thought of making tea with it, but his craftsmanship was just too normal. After all, the tea ceremony also required a lot of time to get to a

certain stage. This time, however, it was a little different.

The reward of the system included a complete set of water, tea leaves, and the matching techniques required to make tea. It had everything but the teapot and cups. The reward was simply offered to match the Eggshell-Thin Delicate Porcelain Cups.

"Receive. Let me receive the tea leaves, Pre-Ching Ming Longjing tea, first." Yuan Zhou said with an excited tone.

He had already heard that the tea was as precious as gold.

The system displayed, "The reward has been released and is now available to be received."

"Receive." Yuan Zhou received the technique of making tea first and comprehended it carefully for a while.

The technique was simple and elegant. It was natural and smooth like the floating clouds and flowing water without any smoke and fire.

"I finally understand why the heroines are frequently asked to make tea for the hero in those novels." Yuan Zhou sat on the chair and sighed with emotion.

"The actions and postures are definitely perfect. It's simply a sharp weapon to attract girls." Yuan Zhou thought of the moment when he was doing that and said earnestly.

After all, he mastered good craftsmanship of making tea and besides, had a good-looking face. Good-looking. Good-looking.

"Is the tea in the cabinet like usual?" Yuan Zhou searched around and asked when he didn't find the tea box.

The system displayed, "Yes."

Yuan Zhou stood up and searched around and finally found the label of tea leaves on a cabinet at the top.

At that time, the chair that could rise automatically was needed to help Yuan Zhou reach the tea.

God knows what psychological process Yuan Zhou had experienced before he could face the reality that he couldn't reach things at the top with his height being less than 1.8m. Previously, he wasn't able to accept that but now he could do that with ease.

"Zhi Ya". Once the cabinet was opened, there appeared a box, specifically, a small box.

It was really small, as large as Yuan Zhou's two palms.

"It's so small." Yuan Zhou murmured and then took out the box straightforwardly.

The box was very beautiful. Even if the system didn't tell him, Yuan Zhou knew it was definitely quite valuable as it felt wonderful in his hands.

It was as warm and smooth like the skin of a maiden. Judging from the appearance, however, it was obviously made of tin, but was surprisingly so fine and smooth.

"It's supposed to be a tin box. And it's considered to be the best on the aspects of leak-tightness, antioxidation and moisture resistance. Furthermore, it has the appellation of green metal." Yuan Zhou checked it carefully and said affirmatively.

"I just feel that the box is too small." Yuan Zhou murmured.

After a sound of "Bo", Yuan Zhou opened the box lightly.

"System, the tea provided is way too little." Yuan Zhou looked at the tea that filled half a box and said that.

The system displayed, "It's the Pre-Ching Ming Longjing Tribute Tea. The yield is only 400g every year and that is all here in your hand."

Yuan Zhou covered the box subconsciously and reacted very quickly, saying, "Do you mean it only produces so little tea every year?"

The system displayed, "Yes."



"No wonder it's the Pre-Ching Ming Tea. It's as precious as the gold, but this is way too little." Yuan Zhou sighed with emotion.

The system displayed, "Lu Yu, the Sage of Tea in Tang Dynasty, described the production record of the tea grown in both Tianzhu Temple and Lingyin Temple in Hangzhou in his literary work Book of Tea. In the Northern Song Dynasty, tea production began to take shape. The Eminent Monk Biancai once tasted the tea and composed poems at the foot of Shifeng Hill in Longjing district with Su Shi. After that, he wrote the three characters of Old Long Jing personally to make it a horizontal inscribed board. Later, the successive reigns and dynasties all spoke highly of the tea."

"During Qianlong Period of Qing Dynasty, the emperor designated the 18 tea plants in front of Hugong Temple at the foot of Shifeng Hill as the tribute tea. The tea in your hand is produced from those 18 tea plants, therefore the amount is quite little."

"But you are the system. Don't you have more?" For precious stuff, Yuan Zhou had always believed the more, the better.

The system displayed, "Pre-Ching Ming Tea is harvested before the Qingming Festival."

"Understood." Yuan Zhou indicated that he understood that instantly.

The time of harvesting was just the reason why the Pre-Ching Ming Tea was so precious. It was the treasure when harvested three days earlier while it became worthless grass when harvested three days late. Besides, there were only 18 tea plants in all. Having known about that, Yuan Zhou was reluctant to sell it anymore. It was so little that he'd rather keep it and drink it by himself.

Looking at the box, Yuan Zhou felt he was so lucky. Even if one had money, he probably couldn't buy it for sure.

"It seems that I can enjoy the precious tea this afternoon." Yuan Zhou looked at the warm sunshine and wanted to have a try.

That's right. Yuan Zhou was prepared to make tea to drink. He just intended to sit at the door instead of other places as he wanted others to know that he had mastered the tea ceremony.

Otherwise, that would be no different from wearing gorgeous silk clothing but walking in the night. Yuan Zhou was quite considerate to others.

"Xi Xi Suo Suo". After quite a while, Yuan Zhou carried out other tea sets provided by the system and put them on the table on which he usually sculpted. Having placed the Eggshell-Thin Delicate Porcelain Cups well carefully, he sat down and prepared to start.

"Boss Yuan, Brother Yuan." There passed a clear and melodious female sound.

"Hi, Xiaoyun. There you are." Yuan Zhou raised his head and greeted her warmly.

"Yes. Brother Yuan, are you busy?" With a blush on her face, Mu Xiaoyun looked at Yuan Zhou curiously. She was wearing a beige sweater, a dark blue short skirt, and a pair of snow-white tennis shoes.

"You don't have classes today?" Instead of answering her, Yuan Zhou asked again.

"It is Saturday today. I come over to my dad's home to find my brother." Mu Xiaoyun answered obediently.

"Alright. Wait a moment. Let's drink tea together." Instead of waiting for Mu Xiaoyun's answer, Yuan Zhou straightforwardly prepared a position and turned back to the second floor to carry a chair downstairs.

"Drink tea? Thank you so much, Brother Yuan." Mu Xiaoyun agreed obediently.

"Um. My treat, this time." Yuan Zhou indicated that he didn't stand treat just because she called him "Brother".

Even if he was called "Uncle" by others, Yuan Zhou could guarantee it wasn't because of that.

It was just because one person would merely drink tea while two companions would taste tea, even if Mu Xiaoyun was a little girl.

"Um, um." Mu Xiaoyun nodded her head and sat on the chair.

"Don't talk while drinking tea," said Yuan Zhou before he began to make tea.

## Chapter 489: Buying Tea

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There came the sound of the boiling water, "Puff Puff Puff." The water in the pottery urn that Yuan Zhou had placed on the red clay stove started to boil.

"Tea making is especially particular with the temperature of the cups," said Yuan Zhou while taking the pottery urn off.

"Um." Mu Xiaoyun liked learning things beside Yuan Zhou very much. She stared at Yuan Zhou's hands without even blinking.

"Hua La". With the slight sound of flowing water, Yuan Zhou rinsed and washed all the glass teaware. Of course, he also didn't forget to wash the set of the precious Eggshell-Thin Delicate Porcelain Cups.

When the water was poured, it emitted a little water vapor, which smelled slightly fragrant and pleasant.

"Boss Yuan feels like so professional when he's making tea." Mu Xiaoyun thought proudly in the heart.

It was also the first time that Mu Xiaoyun had seen Yuan Zhou make tea. She never thought Yuan Zhou could make tea. After all, when she was working here, the grandpa once got greatly infuriated due to the Keemun Black Tea being used to boil the Tea Eggs.

At that time, the grandpa pointed to Yuan Zhou's nose and scolded him, "You brat, you are recklessly wasting God's good gifts. You don't know anything about tea."

"It turns out that Boss Yuan knows everything." Mu Xiaoyun looked at the earnest man and thought inwardly.

Yuan Zhou was warming the cups meticulously with the top-quality bamboo water, which was most suitable to make tea.

Lu Yu once said in Book of Tea, "Of the water used to make tea,

the mountain spring water is superior, the river water is of medium-quality and the well water inferior."

In Tang Dynasty, Zhang Youxin regarded the water from Kangwang Valley of Lushan Mountain to be the first, the spring from Huishan Mountain in Wuxi the second and the stone water of Lan stream in Jizhou the third in his work Report On Water For Brewing Tea.

The bamboo water was originated in the Song Dynasty, when tea competition was quite popular among the nobles and refined scholars.

Therefore, for the tea to be the best, the teaware must be the top-quality as well as the water used to make tea. Only in that way could they make the best tea.

"Hua La." Yuan Zhou poured all the remaining water after the cups were warmed.

"Boss Yuan, why did you pour all the water?" Mu Xiaoyun tilted her head and looked at Yuan Zhou with puzzlement.

"Because the water has just been boiled up to the extent of producing big bubbles and the oxygen no longer exists in such water. Therefore, the tea won't be satisfactory." Yuan Zhou was quite patient with the little girl who didn't work here anymore and explained carefully to her.

"Oh, oh." Mu Xiaoyun nodded her head continuously, but she didn't really understand him.

After all, she didn't know how to make tea at all. All the puzzling explanatory words didn't actually affect Mu Xiaoyun feeling that Yuan Zhou was so awesome.

After that, Yuan Zhou filled the pottery urn with the fresh bamboo water and placed it over the charcoal fire again and then started to boil the water.

This time, Yuan Zhou looked carefully at the fire. When the

water began to boil and produced small bubbles, he immediately took the pottery urn off the red clay stove and started to make tea.

"Hua Hua". Yuan Zhou poured the water into the glass cup, which was of the established brand, Fuguang, and made specifically for making tea. The transmittance and transparency were far beyond imagination.

Once the water was poured in, the Pre-Ching Ming Longjing Tea floated up first and then went down slowly. During the process of going down, it danced and sank to the bottom slowly like a charming and soft beauty.

It was graceful and charming and meanwhile emitting a delicate fragrance gently. With the tea leaves stretching slowly in the cup, they floated up and down as the water turned green. The fragrance was also becoming stronger.

Even before drinking, it had made the people who liked drinking tea intoxicated. After all, it was the Pre-Ching Ming Tea, more specifically, the Pre-Ching Ming Longjing Tribute Tea harvested from the 18 tea plants.

"It looks so beautiful." Mu Xiaoyun looked at the beautiful green leaves in the cup and said.

"It's indeed too beautiful to be absorbed all at once." Yuan Zhou nodded his head seriously.

After they appreciated silently for a while, Yuan Zhou said again.

"Alright. Time to drink now." Yuan Zhou said.

"Um, um." Mu Xiaoyun carried up the cup in front of her obediently and waited for Yuan Zhou to pour the tea.

"You behave quite well." Yuan Zhou praised her.

"Brother Yuan, you are also very young." Mu Xiaoyun stuck out her tongue and said with a mischievous tone.

"Well, yes." Yuan Zhou nodded his head as if it were real.

As for the matter that everyone called Yuan Zhou "uncle", he had forgotten about that selectively.

"Ah, hiss." Mu Xiaoyun carried up the teacup and drank a mouthful of it directly.

"This is so bitter." Mu Xiaoyun said discontentedly with her white frowned face severely wrinkled.

Yuan Zhou was about to make fun of her when he was interrupted by a loud voice.

"Bitter? Why don't you give me a cup of the tea? I'm not afraid of bitterness. Instead, I like bitter things very much." The words were uttered quite firmly.

Mu Xiaoyun and Yuan Zhou turned their head at the same time and then saw a middle-aged man with an eager look.

The person was about 50 years old. He was dressed in the black business suit with a neat white shirt inside. He was also wearing a tie and black leather shoes. The attire just made him appear spirited. He was now staring straight at the teacup of Mu Xiaoyun and occasionally revealed a look of annoyance and pity.

"Who are you?" Yuan Zhou stood up and stood in front of Mu Xiaoyun.

"Boss Yuan, is the tea for sale?" Apparently, this person knew Yuan Zhou, but Yuan Zhou didn't really remember him.

"No." Yuan Zhou said cleanly.

"No? Why not sell such good tea? Sell a little to me, ok?" The middle-aged man craned his neck and looked straight at the teaware.

"I'm saying it seriously. The tea isn't for sale." Yuan Zhou got seated again after he said that.

Yuan Zhou also realized that this person behaved so eagerly because of the Pre-Ching Ming Tea on the table. On this point, he

was more or less the same to the grandpa who had almost exchanged blows with Yuan Zhou for the Keemun Black Tea. He was supposed to be a person who loved tea very much.

This person was the Division Chief Lin from the tax bureau. He happened to pass by Yuan Zhou's restaurant today and thus wanted to come for a visit. He had only been here for meals two times and this was the third time. He would visit occasionally as he was concern about this large taxpayer.

Once he walked for 100 meters into the side street, however, Division Chief Lin perceived sensitively that somebody was making tea.

Nowadays, the government officials all liked drinking tea, keeping pet birds, growing flowers to show they were highly civilized and cultured. Coincidentally, Division Chief Lin liked drinking tea very much. He liked it so much that he couldn't smell anything else but the fragrance of the tea. On this aspect, he was doing no worse than Chu Xiao who had a very sharp nose.

Following the fragrance of the tea, Division Chief Lin walked to the door of Yuan Zhou's restaurant. As soon as he stopped, he heard Mu Xiaoyun complain about the bitter taste of the tea.

Then, Division Chief Lin had no time to attend to other affairs. Though the little girl was afraid of bitter taste, he wasn't. For such superior green tea, he had never even heard of it, not to mention smelling it.

"It doesn't matter that you don't sell the tea. Boss Yuan, why don't you treat me to a cup of the tea? Only one cup is good." If it were other occasions, Division Chief Lin would care a lot more about his prestige and wouldn't say that. However, the more he looked at the tea, the more eager he was for it. Anyhow, it was the best-quality Longjing Tea that he had never drunk before. As for his missing prestige, he could try to find it back tomorrow.

"Uncle, do you want to drink the tea?" Mu Xiaoyun asked



obediently.

"Right on. I like nothing but drinking tea. Judging from the flavor, it's really like the Pre-Ching Ming Longjing Tea." Division Chief Lin just stared at the graceful and charming green tea in the glass cup without raising his eyes and then said.

"You have to ask Boss Yuan. But Boss Yuan is called Compass by others." Mu Xiaoyun smiled mischievously.

Of course, Mu Xiaoyun was aware that Yuan Zhou didn't really dislike the person and hence said so.

"It's indeed the Pre-Ching Ming Longjing Tea." Yuan Zhou took a look at Mu Xiaoyun solemnly before he answered primly.

Naturally, he omitted the two characters of "tribute tea" in the latter part considerately.

"I'm way too pathetic. Not to mention drinking it, it's the first time that I saw the Pre-Ching Ming Longjing tea. Little brother, just let me taste a cup of the tea, will you?" Despite his age, Division Chief Lin asked for mercy quite deftly.

It was unknown if he had mastered the technique from asking for expenditures during normal times.

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# Chapter 490: Begging For A Cup of Good Tea

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"I'm sorry, I don't know you." Yuan Zhou didn't care about the pathetic actions of Division Chief Lin.

"Don't say like that. My name is Lin Guoli and I work in the tax bureau not far from here. We can be considered working together. How about you sell a cup of the tea to me?" Division Chief Lin didn't actually use his specific position to give Yuan Zhou pressure. Instead, he said frankly and straightforwardly.

Although the identity might not work well against Yuan Zhou, Division Chief Lin was truly not prepared to tell them.

"Xiaoyun, let's drink." Yuan Zhou indicated that he had heard that with a nod, but didn't answer him anymore. Instead, he turned to look at Mu Xiaoyun and said.

"But it is way too bitter and is not pleasant at all. I prefer the watermelon juice to the tea." Mu Xiaoyun said honestly.

"Dear me! Little girl, you are still too young to know the taste." Division Chief Lin answered first before Yuan Zhou.

"Lu Tong, known as the Tea Immortal, said in his work Songs of Seven Bowls of Tea that, 'After drinking up seven bowls of tea, I feel like moving with the calm serenity of a god.' This taste can give the feeling of becoming an immortal." Speaking of the tea, Division Chief Lin shook his head and appeared quite serious.

"But still, it's bitter." Mu Xiaoyun stuck out her tongue secretly and then said.

Hearing that, even Yuan Zhou felt it was a pity to give good tea to the little girl to drink.

What a joke! What kind of tea did she think it was? It was the tribute Pre-Ching Ming Tea, as precious as gold and moreover was harvested from the only 18 tea plants. Even the system could only provide 400 grams of the tea every year. It would be used up after

making tea twice.

One had to know what kind of existence the system was. It could even provide extinct food ingredients.

Besides, the water used to make tea came from the bamboo forests of Tiantai Mountain. It was the superior water with which Su Shunchen defeated Cai Xiang, not to mention the priceless Eggshell-Thin Delicate Porcelain Cups used to drink tea.

"Ahem ahem. If you don't like drinking it, you can give it to others." Yuan Zhou said primly, yet without even looking at Division Chief Lin.

"Yes, exactly. Little girls don't like drinking bitter things." On hearing that, Division Chief Lin nodded his head immediately while looking at Mu Xiaoyun with an eager look.

"Huh? Can I?" Mu Xiaoyun looked at Yuan Zhou with puzzlement.

As far as she knew, Yuan Zhou didn't like giving food that one couldn't eat up to others.

"Um." Yuan Zhou nodded lightly, indicating that he didn't mind.

Good tea could only demonstrate its own value when it was drunk by people who knew about it. Moreover, this couldn't be considered his treat.

"See? Even Boss Yuan agrees. Little girl, let me drink your tea, ok? Please!" Then, Division Chief Lin got quite impatient. He was now behaving like a wolf that intended to abduct and traffic kids.

"Alright." With a nod of her head, Mu Xiaoyun drank up the remaining tea in her teacup with a gulp.

"Hiss. It's so bitter." After gulping the tea down, Mu Xiaoyun felt it was even bitterer and thus couldn't help sticking out her tongue.

Yuan Zhou said inwardly, "What a cute girl!"

As for Division Chief Lin, he just waited there for Mu Xiaoyun to

give him her teacup without even blinking. Of course, he liked the full cup of the tea on the other side more, but he didn't dare to take it. After all, Yuan Zhou was sitting steadily beside it.

Most importantly, he wanted to drink the tea again next time. Division Chief Lin was one that always took precautions beforehand.

As an obedient girl, Mu Xiaoyun took up a beautiful cup and filled half a cup with the tea meticulously and then prepared to hand it to Division Chief Lin.

"More, more, please. It's not full yet, little girl." Division Chief Lin said anxiously.

"It's more or less good. If you can't drink it up, you'll waste it." Mu Xiaoyun said seriously.

"No, no, no. I can absolutely drink it up. Even a full cup of the tea is no problem for me." Division Chief Lin immediately vouched for his determination and said affirmatively.

"No." Mu Xiaoyun straightened her face and refused. She was now behaving as earnestly as Yuan Zhou.

"Okay. Alright." Division Chief Lin nodded his head helplessly.

Yuan Zhou watched them at the side and felt it quite interesting.

At first glance, Division Chief Lin must be in a high position. Although he didn't introduce his title, it was definitely not a low one. On this point, Yuan Zhou was very clear. However, he was surprisingly controlled by the little girl, Mu Xiaoyun, now.

"The Pre-Ching Ming Tea seems to be really powerful." Yuan Zhou sipped the tea lightly and felt complacent in his heart.

"Uncle, you can't waste even a drop of the tea. Otherwise, you can no longer drink Brother Yuan's tea, nor eat his delicacies next time." Mu Xiaoyun told him with an expression of solemnity.

Mu Xiaoyun didn't like drinking tea, but judging from Division

Chief Lin's manner, she knew the tea was definitely very precious. The main point was that everything served by Yuan Zhou wasn't cheap, on which Mu Xiaoyun was fairly experienced.

"Yes, sure." Division Chief Lin received the teacup meticulously.

The thin milky white porcelain surface was painted with the orchids and the dark green tea water inside the cup was slightly revealed. It appeared as if the orchids were growing on a vast grassland. However, only the orchid flower in front of him appeared to be unique and exceedingly beautiful.

When it was held close, the Longjing Tea emitted a fascinating fragrance, which stimulated Division Chief Lin so much that he almost wanted to drink it up in one gulp. However, he tried to resist the urge to do that and looked carefully at the tea water in the cup.

"Good tea! It's really good tea." Division Chief Lin couldn't help saying that.

"It's good tea only after you drink it." Yuan Zhou drank a mouthful of the tea lightly and then said.

He behaved as if he were just drinking something very ordinary, but his actions were elegant and good-looking. He totally appeared to be a great master of the tea ceremony.

"You are right." Division Chief Lin nodded approvingly, but still stared at the tea water in the cup carefully.

At first glance, the tea wasn't extraordinary. It was really a waste to drink it up like this.

"There really is some soybean fragrance. What a luxury it is to use the soybean to fertilize the Longjing Tea!" Division Chief Lin sighed with emotion revealing an intoxicated look.

"Moreover, the fragrance was like orchid flowers, but is better than that. It's really like an ancient plum blossom revealing its most delicate fragrance to me." Division Chief Lin narrowed his

eyes and just stood there with an intoxicated expression.

The quality of the tea was supposed to be graded as per its color, fragrance, taste, and shape. And Division Chief Lin had just reached the stage of taste now.

"Absorb." He took the teacup up and sipped it lightly.

Immediately, he closed his eyes and mouth, leaving the fragrance and tea water fermenting slowly in his mouth. Only after that did he gulp the tea down quickly.

"Surprisingly, I have a warm feeling like spring in such weather." Division Chief Lin instantly opened his eyes and looked at Yuan Zhou with his eyes brimming with radiating vigour.

"This is absolutely not the Pre-Ching Ming Longjing Tea, is it?" Division Chief Lin asked extremely anxiously.

"How is it possible that the Pre-Ching Ming Longjing Tea is so elegant and authentic? It's simply the strengthened version of the Pre-Ching Ming Longjing Tea. No, even that couldn't describe such good tea as this." Division Chief Lin said to himself and denied his own speculations ceaselessly.

"It's indeed the Pre-Ching Ming Longjing Tea, yet with a slightly better quality." Yuan Zhou answered him lightly as if it weren't so surprising.

"You say it's just slightly better? Oh God, I have really been through half a lifetime in vain. Though I'm a government official, I ended up in failure. Can you believe it's only the first time that I drank such good tea? Only this can be called tea. Only this can be called Pre-Ching Ming Longjing Tea." Division Chief Lin first contradicted Yuan Zhou loudly and then he looked at the remaining little tea in the teacup expectantly.

"Xiaoyun, fill my teacup again." Having paid no attention to Division Chief Lin that was obsessed with the tea, Yuan Zhou contrarily said that.

"Oh. Okay." Mu Xiaoyun revealed a proud look.

"Look! How calm Brother Yuan is! Even if it's good tea, one can't forget himself." Looking at Yuan Zhou, Mu Xiaoyun thought like this.

Of course, it was because Mu Xiaoyun didn't know the value of the tea at all. If she had known that, she would probably choke Yuan Zhou, who always postured in front of others, to death like what Division Chief Lin was intending to do now.

# Chapter 491: The All-Fish Banquet

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"Shua". Upon hearing Yuan Zhou asking Mu Xiaoyun to fill his tea cup again, Division Chief Lin immediately handed his cup to her.

Yes, he did that even before Yuan Zhou brought up his own cup.

"Come on. Fill my cup 90% full. I can handle it." Division Chief Lin said affirmatively.

"But this is for Brother Yuan." Looking at Division Chief Lin, Mu Xiaoyun said seriously.

"Never mind. Boss Yuan is a talented master and won't make a fuss about that." Division Chief Lin bamboozled Mu Xiaoyun with a smile.

"Not really." Yuan Zhou shook his head and said coldly.

"Aha, okay. You first and I will follow." Division Chief Lin just followed up after Yuan Zhou. He wasn't angry at all.

After that, Yuan Zhou didn't know what to say. In order to drink the tea, Division Chief Lin had decided to do anything, even if he had to lose face.

Because of Division Lin's unending efforts, Mu Xiaoyun had to pour tea for him.

Yuan Zhou didn't have much leisure time. As dinner time was about to arrive, Yuan Zhou started to get things ready and then returned to the kitchen.

"Why did you come over here today?" While rinsing and washing the teapot and cups, Yuan Zhou asked Mu Xiaoyun casually.

"I just wanted to ask if I can come to work again during the winter vacation." Once she said that, she immediately covered her mouth in surprise.

Mu Xiaoyun indeed came over here today for something, but she



was just too embarrassed to tell Yuan Zhou. After all, she knew that Yuan Zhou had recruited two helpers. When she was drinking tea later, she had intended to forget the idea. But in the end, Yuan Zhou still asked her.

"Boss Yuan, how did you know I came here for something?" Mu Xiaoyun stared at Yuan Zhou with her eyes wide open and her ponytail wagging worriedly.

"Yes, you can. The pay is the same as before." Yuan Zhou didn't answer the second question, but just said straightforwardly.

"Huh? Thank you. Thank you, Boss Yuan. That is so kind of you." Mu Xiaoyun was so happy now that she didn't care how Yuan Zhou knew about the issue anymore. She just kept thanking him.

"Um." Yuan Zhou nodded his head and then put the teaware away before he went back to his restaurant.

"Fantastic." Mu Xiaoyun clenched her fists happily and prepared to follow Yuan Zhou into the restaurant.

"Go back earlier." Yuan Zhou uttered and stopped her directly.

"Ok. I'll come by next time." Immediately, Mu Xiaoyun followed Yuan Zhou's advice and left.

"There's no tea anymore." Yuan Zhou looked at Division Chief Lin who followed him into the room unhappily.

"I only drank two cups of the tea." Division Chief Lin made a gesture with two fingers and said irritably.

"Okay." Yuan Zhou nodded his head, without saying yes or no.

"So I still want some more." Division Chief Lin said immodestly.

"I don't have more." Yuan Zhou refused him cleanly.

"There are still some tea leaves over there. I want to buy 50g, only 50g." Division Chief Lin estimated his salary and said reluctantly.

The tea leaves were definitely top-quality, therefore Division Chief Lin didn't dare to buy too much. But no matter what, 50g of the tea leaves should still be affordable.

"I am not selling them." Yuan Zhou refused.

"Why?" Division Chief Lin stared at Yuan Zhou's tea box without even blinking.

"Dinner time has not yet arrived. No service is available at the moment." Yuan Zhou started to drive him away directly.

"Okay, I'll stand by the door." Division Chief Lin didn't dare to disobey Yuan Zhou.

The life of Division Chief Lin was like the tea leaves in Yuan Zhou's hands, being grasped by Yuan Zhou. If it were the grandpa, however, he would probably would have snatched it forcibly or helplessly collapse on the ground to get it. After all, the grandpa had been taking care of his grandson recently and might have learned these little tricks from his grandson.

"The tea leaves are not for sale." After Yuan Zhou said that, he returned to the kitchen and started to prepare dinner.

Division Chief Lin was still there. Even if he heard Yuan Zhou's words, he didn't leave and remained standing at the door.

Therefore, the customers that came to line up for the dinner surprisingly saw Division Chief Lin standing at the door and looking toward the inside of Yuan Zhou's restaurant eagerly, not intending to go line up.

"What's the matter?" Yin Yin asked curiously.

Yin Yin was the girl who was always confused by Yuan Zhou's strange leave requests. She was also a regular customer that was known by Yuan Zhou.

"Don't you know? He's definitely waiting for something to eat." Wu Hai said in an insightful manner.

"Then why isn't he going to line up?" Yin Yin asked him back.

"How do I know that?" Wu Hai said boldly.

"You can go to ask." Yin Yini said smilingly with her eyes curved.

"It's not me who wants to know that. You should go ask yourself." Wu Hai answered immediately.

"But I really want to know. Could you ask for me, please?" Yin Yin's tone was slightly flirty.

"What does that have anything to do with me?" Wu Hai revealed a puzzled look.

Well, it was quite understandable why Wu Hai couldn't find a girlfriend. After all, his EQ was alike to Yuan Zhou's.

Having watched them all along, Ling Hong that had high EQ said, "If you just stand there and don't come to line up, you'll never be able to eat."

"Thank you." When she heard that, Yin Yin turned to look at Ling Hong and thanked him.

"Never mind. I am not eating." Division Chief Lin said directly.

"Boss Yuan doesn't talk about business with others during the opening hours." Wu Hai shrugged.

"I have no business to talk with him." Division Chief Lin merely wanted to buy 50g of top-quality tea leaves, so he shook his head and added these words in his heart.

"Not for food, nor for business?" Then, all the customers in line became curious.

Since he didn't aim for a meal nor for business purposes, Ling Hong and Wu Hai stopped asking him anymore. After all, this person had stood here since the very beginning, but didn't go to get the number ticket. Naturally, they needed to ask him about that. Since he was here for neither, they weren't curious anymore.

"Then what are you here for?" Yin Yin asked on the contrary.

Division Chief Lin turned his head and shook his head hurriedly when he saw many customers staring at him, "Nothing. I am just watching something."

He wasn't so foolish as to tell them that Yuan Zhou had top-quality tea leaves. If he didn't tell them, he might get a portion. But if he told them, he probably wouldn't have the opportunity.

"It's so strange." The customers murmured on one accord and then ignored that.

After all, there were many eccentrics in Yuan Zhou's restaurant.

Just ten minutes before Yuan Zhou's business commenced, Yuan Zhou's phone rang.

"Ling Ling Ling, Ling Ling Ling." When it rang for the first time, Yuan Zhou didn't answer. Not until had it rang for the third time did Yuan Zhou wipe his hands and answer it.

"Chairman Zhou, my business hours will start right away." The moment Yuan Zhou answered the phone, he said that first.

"I know, I know. I still remember your timetable. There are still ten minutes left." Chairman Zhou cared little about Yuan Zhou's impatient tone and even explained earnestly.

"Please speak," Yuan Zhou paused a little while and then said lightly.

"I just wanted to ask what dishes are you going to cook tomorrow. Shouldn't you inquire about our dietetic restraints?" Zhou Shijie asked straightforwardly.

This time, Yuan Zhou paused a little longer. Normally, he didn't tell others about the new dishes in advance, but what Chairman Zhou said did make sense. He felt a little embarrassed as Yuan Zhou had never treated others so formally.

However, Yuan Zhou didn't reveal any special expression on his

face. He took a deep breath and then said naturally.

"Fish. Both Chu Xiao and you eat fish. I hope the other people you will bring here also eat fish."

"Of course. The taste of the Empurau Fish in Boiling Soup you cooked last time is still lingering in my mouth. Fish is good. It's good to cook fish dishes." Zhou Shijie's tone was full of satisfaction.

"Ok. That's it." Yuan Zhou nodded and then hung off the phone.

Now, they were all waiting to see how Yuan Zhou would compete against Chu Xiao's goose liver with his all-fish banquet...

# Chapter 492: The Blinding Special Price

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Time flew. Soon, the next evening came. For the whole day, Yuan Zhou did not cook any fish dishes. He was waiting for the banquet in the evening.

As usual, Yuan Zhou hung a banner saying a new dish would be served before the dinner, even if Zhou Shijie and Chu Xiao hadn't arrived there yet.

After all, the dish wasn't prepared for Chu Xiao only. Other customers could also order it under the condition that they conformed to the requirements, namely, Yuan Zhou's rules.

"!!!!!! Boss, Boss...!!!!!! Is this the price of the new dish?" Zhou Jia pointed at the wall and asked in surprise.

"Yes." Yuan Zhou nodded his head calmly.

"Are you sure it's correct?" Zhou Jia swallowed her saliva and looked at Yuan Zhou in astonishment.

Written on the wall was the following information.

Special Price for an All-Fish Banquet: 38880RMB per serving (note: There are 10 dishes in all for this banquet. It can be ordered only on occasions where a banquet is considered appropriate. Wasting is not allowed.)

Zhou Jia felt she probably wouldn't have any opportunity to eat the banquet at such a price in her life. In Yuan Zhou's restaurant, however, it might be acceptable. After all, a single dish of Phoenix Tail Prawns cost as much as 1288RMB. Since there were ten dishes in all included in the price, it wasn't too expensive if one averaged it out.

"Um." Looking at the two characters of "special price" on the wall, Yuan Zhou felt an ache in his balls, yet still maintained a peaceful expression on his face.

"What does the note at the latter part means?" Zhou Jia asked seriously.

Having accepted the high price, she naturally needed to understand everything else. Only in that way could she give the customers satisfactory answers.

"Birthday, important treats, offering birthday congratulations to the old, and business dinners." Yuan Zhou brought out all the important occasions he could think of straightforwardly.

"Um. Okay, I got it." Zhou Jia nodded and took note of them carefully.

"Report to me separately when it's ordered later." Yuan Zhou said in the end.

"Okay. Let me go open the door first." Zhou Jia nodded her head and then said.

"Go ahead." After Yuan Zhou said that, he began to prepare the ingredients directly.

"Everybody, mealtime is here. Please enter the restaurant for your meal." The clear and melodious voice of Zhou Jia could be heard outside the door.

In the meantime, Yuan Zhou murmured under his breath, "There you go. I'm now putting my money into the cash box. Lucky it's the special price, otherwise, how much pain I will be in when I eat it!"

After saying that, Yuan Zhou put the money amounting to 38880RMB into the cash box directly.

Well, Yuan Zhou preferred paying by cash. When he wasn't in a good mood, he could comfort himself by counting the money.

"Teacher, this person is really arrogant. Why do we have to line up since he promised to treat us?" It was Liu Tong, the most talented one of the two disciples that Zhou Shjie brought with him, that spoke.

Liu Tong was about only 25 years old. He was dressed in the light blue business suit with a white shirt inside and light-colored pants. His hair was sharply spiked like the spines of the hedgehog. He had an active character and spoke straightforwardly, but also knew how to behave appropriately.

The one ahead of him was his eldest fellow classmate Li Minghui. He was the first that followed Zhou Shijie to study cooking and he appeared quite steady and reliable, like a senior classmate. He was neither tall nor short and was dressed in a black business suit. On hearing the words of Liu Tong, Li Minghui didn't seem to agree with him on the surface, but actually, he wholeheartedly agreed with him in his heart.

No matter who stood treat, they all sent the invitation beforehand respectfully

"It is his rules." Chu Xiao crossed his arms against the chest and said coldly at the side.

"What kind of rules? Master Chu, do you know this chef?" Liu Tong immediately approached him and asked.

"Master Chu, do you know him?" Liu Minghui couldn't help asking him, either.

Apart from their own teacher Zhou Shijie, the two disciples admired Chu Xiao the most. Now that he said that, they naturally attached more importance to him.

"No, I don't." Chu Xiao said decisively.

Speaking of which, they indeed didn't know each other. They even hadn't ever completed any sort of formalities like shaking hands or self-introductions.

"This person has really impolite rules. He wants to treat us, but surprisingly lets us wait here." Liu Tong said discontentedly.

"He's indeed disrespectful." Li Minghui also nodded and said when he found other customers ahead of them had started to eat in



the restaurant.

"You can go back." Chu Xiao said quite indifferently.

"Er..." With only a few words, Chu Xiao made the two people of Liu Tong and Li Minghui stop complaining.

"Stop it. Don't you guys have even a little patience? Don't be so rude." Zhou Shijie said with a tone of dissatisfaction.

"We are not. I just feel that this practice is fairly unique." After considering quite a while, Li Minghui brought out some not-so-bad words.

"The rules are always there in Yuan Zhou's restaurant. He doesn't cook except during the mealtime and people have to line up if he wants to eat here. No one but is to blame but themselves if they come late." Zhou Shijie criticized him severely.

"I'm sorry, teacher." Li Minghui appeared to be about 40 years old. Once he heard that, he apologized.

But this apology was made to his teacher Zhou Shijie, not to Yuan Zhou.

At the other side, Liu Tong also admitted defeat and admitted his fault. After all, he must obey his teacher's words. In his heart, however, he had a worse impression of Yuan Zhou.

"What the hell is up with this guy? Although he offers to treat us, he surprisingly kept us waiting here for half an hour." Liu Tong laughed at Yuan Zhou's restaurant secretly.

"Not very talented, but so hot-tempered." Chu Xiao took a glimpse at the two people discontentedly and directly gave his own remarks.

Chu Xiao didn't speak loudly, therefore, only Li Minghui and Liu Tong heard him. After freezing there for a little while, they pretended not to hear anything when they found Zhou Shijie didn't hear it.

"Let's wait patiently. It will be our turn very soon. I didn't eat much at noon just for the sake of this dinner." Zhou Shijie burst into laughter to lighten the atmosphere.

"Um." Chu Xiao responded to him seriously.

"We are also looking forward to that." Liu Tong revealed an artificial smile. He just looked a little mischievous and Zhou Shijie was already used to his careless and casual character, thus he didn't say anything else.

"Chairman Zhou, do you know the menu today?" Chu Xiao suddenly asked that.

"Yes, of course I know." Zhou Shijie nodded smilingly.

Chu Xiao turned to look at Zhou Shijie seriously and waited for his answer.

"But I can't tell you now." Zhou Shijie stroked his beard with his fingers before he continued saying.

"Oh." Chu Xiao turned his head back and showed no special feelings.

"Haw-haw. You'll know the menu later when we go inside. It is a big surprise." Seeing Chu Xiao getting frustrated, Zhou Shijie immediately felt quite comfortable. The helplessness of seeing his disciples getting shamed instantly disappeared.

"No. 18, 19, 20 and 21, please come on in for your meal." Zhou Jia stood at the door and reminded them loudly.

"Finally. Let me see if he's going to serve dragon meat." Liu Tong said softly with a tone of sarcasm.

When Zhou Shijie heard that, he gave a mean look at him and when he saw Liu Tong reveal a complaisant manner, he didn't say anything more. This most talented disciple was always liked by the teacher and Zhou Shijie was more tolerant toward him.

"Ho Ho." Chu Xiao laughed at him coldly and said no more. He

went up and got seated directly.

He was seated at the right side of Zhou Shijie and Liu Tong at the left side. The eldest fellow disciple Li Minghui looked around with a frown and then went to sit beside Liu Tong.

"Nice to meet you, Chairman Zhou. Hello. Hi there, two sirs." Yuan Zhou went up and greeted them personally.

Of course, that "hello" was said to Chu Xiao. For the remaining people that he didn't know, Yuan Zhou just greeted them with "Hi there".

However, this made the most mature disciple, Li Minghui, become dissatisfied as no one had ever ignored him that much. After all, his teacher was one thing but he himself was also someone among his peers that had excellent craftsmanship.

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